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Letter from Editor

The dreaded D word

In our last issue, we featured an eclectic mixture of summertime birding ventures, the status of some of Illinois breeding birds, and even an article on butterfly identification. In this issue, I must bring up the dreaded D word.

D stands for Documentation.

Please don't stop reading. I know documenting rare birds sometimes takes the spontaneity and fun out of birding for some of you.

But consider what jotting down field marks might do for you. Here's an example that has convinced me it's time to start writing not only at my computer, but also in the field.

A birder and I were out (I won't say who, because I don't want him/her to share in the embarrassment) in central Illinois when we noticed a Western-type Kingbird. It was his/her first Western in that county and my second Western in the state. So we were pretty excited. Only trouble is, the bird could have been, a Couch's perhaps, or some other Western-type Kingbird. The birder and I neglected to write some distinguishing marks that may have helped in our identification, and so the bird goes down in history as a Western-type Kingbird. (And I sure could have used a lifer Illinois bird!)

It's not that difficult to keep blank paper and pen with you in your birding vehicle, and then jot down notes when you see a bird. When you get home, you start remembering things that weren't there and forgetting things that were. Did that bird have white outer tail feathers or not? What was the color of the lores? Gray? Black? EEEK. The bird is gone, and you'll never know.

This issue features the Fifth Annual Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee, a standing committee of the Illinois Ornithological Society. It's IORC's duty to review bird records and decide if the information warrants accepting the observation. Without written details, IORC can't do its job, and we, as birders, can't learn more about bird identification.

Several articles in this issue were written by those who thoroughly documented a rare species record that got accepted by IORC. The authors provide a service by giving you an idea of what to look for when you think you're seeing maybe an Allen's Hummingbird or a White-winged Dove, or a Black Skimmer. I hope you enjoy reading this issue's rare bird stories as well as IORC's annual report, and that you'll try some documenting of your own next time you're out in the field.

Sheryl DeVore

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President's Message

Another interesting and busy migration season is upon us. But before we get too busy in the field, I would like to ask you to take some time to investigate several important effects on our avian and other fish and wildlife resources. When Congress returns from its summer recess, it will be working to develop language for a landmark federal funding bill that may provide, for the first time, dedicated funding for nongame fish and wildlife. The objectives are to help restore our coastal areas including the Great Lakes, acquire additional open space, and provide funds for wildlife conservation and management as well as public education. Section C of the bill incorporates concepts proposed over a year ago in the Teaming with Wildlife initiative. Money for these initiatives will come from royalties produced from off-shore petroleum production — money already going to the treasury. Language that would prevent further expansion of off-shore gas and oil production has been included in the bills.

In the House, the bill will be titled HB 701, The Conservation and Restoration Act of 1999. In the Senate, it is called the Reinvestment and Environmental Restoration Act of 1999 SB25.

You have heard me encourage you to investigate similar funding proposals before. Again, I want to encourage you to take the time to review these proposal and let your Congressmen and Senators know your views. Several of our Congressmen and Senators hold key leadership positions and serve on committees that must approve these measures.

If you need more information, please call me at 847-428-6331 during the day or Email Bmontey@aol.com. Please take the time to get informed and to write. In my view, these measures could yield great results for birding in the future.

Until next time, good birding, and thank you.

Bob Montgomery

Articles

First Illinois Record of the Black Skimmer 42
— Myrna Deaton

Another Rare Hummingbird in Illinois: First State Record of the Allen's Hummingbird 44
— H. David Bohlen

Whooping Crane Over Illinois Beach State Park 46
— Robert Hughes

White Winged Dove: First Illinois Record 47
— James O. Smith

Departments

Avian Studies: 48
Investigating the Status of the Henslow's Sparrow in Southern Illinois
— Natasha Harroff

Bird Finding Guide: 50
Birding McLean County
— Michael Retter

Fifth Report of the Ornitholigical Records Committe 53
— David B. Johnson and Douglas Stotz

Seasonal Highlights 63

Field Notes: The 1998 Fall Season 66
—Robert T. Chapel

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On the Cover:

Black Skimmer illustration by Denis Kania.

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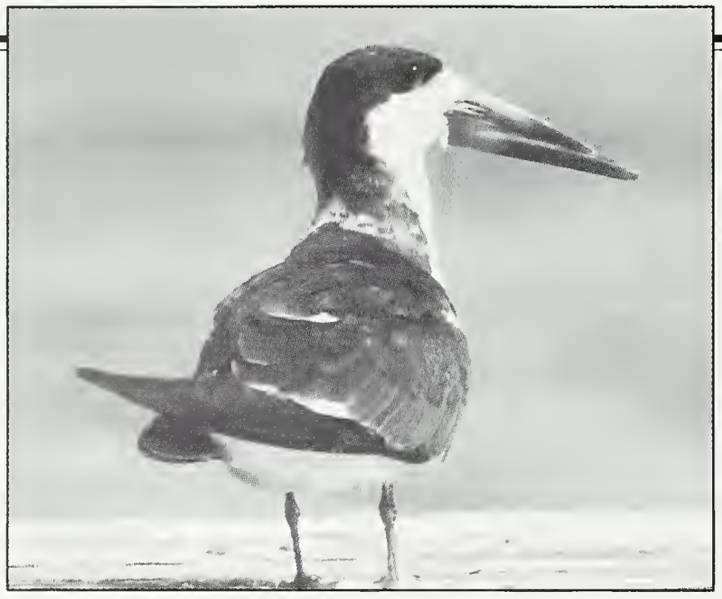
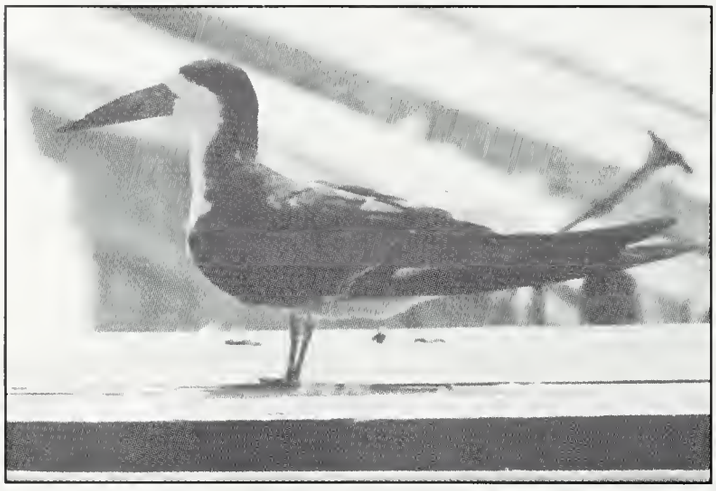
First Illinois Record of the Black Skimmer

by Myrna Deaton





On 4 September 1998, I took a short detour through Nelson Park Marina on Lake Decatur on my way to work to check for migrants in the marina. The jetty in the marina has always been a favorite resting place for gulls and terns, and has produced many interesting birds over the years. As I pulled into the parking lot across the street from the jetty, I noticed a black bird wedged in among all the Ring-billed Gulls. The visible part of the bird was entirely black, with long pointed wings extending well beyond the tail. The bird was obviously much more short-legged than the gulls and appeared tern-like in shape.

This was definitely not one of the usual migrants.

As I reached excitedly for my binoculars, my mind raced through the short list of possibilities, neither of which had been recorded previously in Illinois: Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) and Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*). Hurricane Earl, which had finally made landfall the previous day after several days in the Gulf of Mexico, could have produced a vagrant of either species. When one of the gulls blocking my view of the black bird's head shifted positions, I got a glimpse of a black and white head, white underparts, and a large, oddly shaped red and black bill. The bird was a Black Skimmer!

I ran down to the jetty and was able to get a clear view of the whole bird from less than 100 feet away. There was no identification challenge here; that large red and black bill with the lower mandible longer than the upper one is unique to the Black Skimmer. Knowing from experience that vagrant birds often do not stay long, I started calling other birders and returned home to get my camera. By the time I returned a few minutes later with the camera, Dick Sandburg had seen the bird and was making more phone calls to alert other Central Illinois birders. As we approached the jetty, all the birds flushed.

The skimmer was beautiful in flight, with graceful, fluid wingbeats. The underwings were almost entirely white, with black primary tips. The skimmer's wingspan was comparable to the Ring-billed Gulls. The size difference that was noticeable on sitting birds disappeared in flight. When flushed, the skimmer's call could be heard distinctly from the gulls. It reminded me of a small dog's "yap".

Fortunately, the birds sat again on a roof in the marina. The Black Skimmer wasn't hard to locate among all those white gulls. I was able to take some distant photographs before I had to reluctantly leave and drive to Springfield to work. Once in Springfield, I immediately contacted Dennis Oehmke so that he could try to get better photographs.

I returned later in the afternoon to find the skimmer back on the jetty and easily located by the flock of people with scopes and binoculars. We spent a pleasant summer evening watching the skimmer and chatting with passers-by on their evening stroll by the lake, encouraging scope views of this remarkable bird. There was a lot of discussion about the likely origin of the bird and why of all places it ended up on Lake Decatur.

By evening the skimmer seemed to want only to rest, and spent much of the time sleeping with its bill tucked.

It always kept its distance from the gulls, but if they came too close, the skimmer would walk slowly toward them with its bill thrust forward and the gulls would back away.

The skimmer was observed much of the day. A few people actually got to see it "skim". Although the skimmer's bill is beautifully adapted for feeding in shallow coastal waters, the deep, murky water of Lake Decatur was a challenge. It was observed fishing in the marina, and it finally caught and ate a fish, but it wasn't graceful.

The other birds in the marina seemed to have known how out of place the skimmer was. The Ring-billed Gulls and even a Great Blue Heron were seen harassing it. Despite being harassed at times, the skimmer stayed with a group of gulls throughout the day.

At dusk all the gulls and the skimmer picked up in unison from the jetty and flew out into the middle of the lake to roost. There were lots of disappointed birders who arrived early on Saturday morning to watch in vain for its return.

This sighting is the only record of the Black Skimmer in Illinois; there are no other references to the Black Skimmer in the ornithological literature for Illinois. The AOU Checklist of North American Birds, Seventh Edition, indicates that the Black Skimmer is casual inland in coastal states. Records further inland are usually storm-related.

The only other Midwestern records are from Tennessee (Robinson 1990), which has one record of a bird found dead in 1890 after a severe storm, and Indiana which has an observational record at Miller, 23 August 1913 and aphotographic record of a bird from Winona Lake during early August 1985 (Keller 1986).

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Black Skimmer photos at Lake Decatur in Macon County on 4 September 1998 by Dennis Oehmke.

Another Rare Hummingbird in Illinois:
First State Record of The Allen's Hummingbird

by H. David Bohlen

Late fall has become notorious for rare birds and recently especially rare hummingbirds. Many of these hummingbirds are from the genus *Selasphorus*, (see addendum). Most that have been identified have been Rufous Hummingbirds *(Selasphorus rufus)*. The sequence of events that lead to finding out about these birds is often as rare as the bird itself. Usually the people with the feeders are interested in the welfare of the bird and this case is no exception. Mary Rotz, a bird rehabilitator, contacted me that a probable Rufous Hummingbird was still attending a feeder at the home of Mary and Chad Stamn in Niantic, Macon County, Illinois. Arrangements were made with the Stamns to view the bird. I called Myrna Deaton of Decatur and she met Beckie Dyer and me at the Stamn residence on the morning of 16 November 1997.

Immature male Allen's Hummingbird, First State Record. Macon County, IL. 17 November 1998. Photos by Dennis Oelmke.

The Stamn yard has a variety of trees including a cedar, which we soon learned was the chosen spot where the hummingbird perched. It was also attending feeders in the front and back of the house. It was cold, 17 F, that morning and overcast with scattered snow on the ground, and when ice covered portions of the feeders periodically, the Stamns had to bring the feeders inside to thaw the nutrient solution. As we watched the bird, we could see it was definitely a *Selasphorus* by the extensive cinnamon coloration on the face, underparts, and upper tail coverts. We also noted a solid green back and the bird's small size. It was apparent that it was an immature male by the presence of some larger reddish metallic spots spread along the lower throat (females have central spots). It is almost impossible to see the tail feather configuration and colors because these birds are so quick. Since I had brought a mist net, we decided, with the Stamn's permission, to catch the bird. After a couple of near misses, we captured the bird when it was on its way to its perching spot in the cedar.

Once extracted from the net I took it in the house where it was measured with a millimeter ruler: exposed culmen = 16mm, wing chord flattened = 39.5mm, tail length = 25mm. I also pulled tail feathers one and five which are now in the Illinois State Museum's bird collection, (ISM #660484). Myra Deaton took a series of photographs of the bird in the hand, concentrating on identification features. The hummingbird in the net bag gave a soft "tchup" call, as well as a series of these calls. Within minutes we released the bird so it would not become traumatized. At this point we were fairly certain it was an Allen's Hummingbird *(Selasphorus sasin)*. We based our tentative identification on the all green back sharply turning to rufous at the upper tail coverts, the measurements of tail feathers one and five, and the lack of emargination of tail feather two.

Within the next few days, I sent the tail feathers and photographs to hummingbird expert Nancy Newfield

of Metaire, Louisiana. She measured the width of the tail feathers with a digital caliper and found rectrix No. 1 (the middle tail feather) to be 7.46mm and No. 5 (the outer tail feather) to be 2.46mm, both of which are within the range of S. *Sasin* although No. 1 only slightly so. She noted that the wing chord and culmen length could fit either S. *sasin* or S. *rufus*. She also said, "The presence of bright rust color on the bird's face, behind the eyes, is a good clue as that character is so often noted on young Allen's Hummingbirds." She left the acceptance of the identification up to the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. After examining the evidence the committee accepted the record 6-0 on 26 July 1998. This is a first-state record for Illinois.

On 17 November Dennis Oehmke photographed the hummingbird at the feeders and obtained a fine series of photographs, (both his and M. Deaton's photos are on file at the Illinois State Museum).

After release, the hummingbird stayed at the Stamns until 19 November 1997 and was last seen around 0730. Although the bird was present for six weeks, fewer than 12 observers saw this rare hummingbird.

This Allen's Hummingbird was probably of the migratory race S. *sasin sasin* since the wing chord was less than 40 mm and the bill (on which I could not detect any corrugations) was less than 17 mm. S. *sasin sedentarius*, the other subspecies, is larger in both of these features (Stiles, 1972). The Allen's Hummingbird breeds along the Pacific coast from southwestern Oregon to Ventura County, California. It winters mostly in Central Mexico (AOU Checklist, 1998). Observations in eastern North America have increased recently with records at least from Kansas, Massachusetts, Virginia, Louisiana, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. Most, if not all, records are for fall and winter.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Mary and Chad Stamn for their gracious hospitality and Nancy Newfield for her expertise.

Addendum

Records of *Selasphorus* in Illinois: Immature female (probably Rufous): IL Macoupin County, Virden. August - 24 November 1986 (photograph at ISM). Immature female (Rufous/Allen's?): IL McDonough County, three miles west of Macomb. 29 August - 7 September 1988 (photograph at ISM). Immature male Rufous Hummingbird: IL Cook County, Olympia Fields. 14 October -12 November 1993. (specimen at Field Museum of Natural History). Immature female Rufous Hummingbird: IL, Jackson County, Murphysboro. 28 October 1992 - 15 January 1993. (tail feather ISM # 660519). Adult female Rufous Hummingbird: IL, Champaign County, Urbana. 6 - 25 October 1996 (tail feather ISM # 660431). Adult male Rufous Hummingbird: IL, Madison County, Edwardsville. 7 November 1997 - 10 January 1998 (photograph at ISM). Adult male Rufous Hummingbird: IL, Sangamon County, west side of Springfield. 7 November - 21 December 1998 (photograph at ISM). Adult female Rufous Hummingbird: IL, Sangamon County, Lake Springfield. 23 November 1998, (specimen ISM # 660520).

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—H. David Bohlen
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Whooping Crane Over Illinois Beach State Park

by Robert Hughes

On 10–11 November 1998, an intense low pressure system passed through the upper Midwest, accompanied by gale force winds. The forecast for 11 November positioned the center of this storm just north of Lake Superior. Because air moves counterclockwise around a low pressure system, the wind that day would be from the west in the Chicago area, ideal conditions for a late fall hawk flight. The temptation was too great to resist, so I decided to spend the day at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County, a premier location for observing the migration of fall raptors.

Whooping Crane photo taken by Robert Hughes on 11 November 1998 at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. The last time this species was recorded in Illinois was 40 years ago.

I arrived at 07:30 am and set up near the mouth of the Dead River, the traditional spot for hawk-watching at the park. Almost immediately I noticed hundreds of migrating waterfowl, which upon closer scrutiny proved to be mostly Mallards. Flocks were visible in every direction and as far as optical performance would permit. Within an hour or two, groups of Snow and Greater White-fronted Geese began to appear, the latter species exceptional along Lake Michigan at anytime. Clearly these birds were responding to the extreme weather by moving south en masse. Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) were also starting to appear. By late in the morning, I observed hundreds of cranes in the sky. Shortly before noon, die-hard hawkwatcher Bob Erickson arrived.

> ...it was obviously a Whooping Crane, an adult no less, and I yelled this fact with such volume the bird itself probably heard me.

At noon we considered leaving for a brief lunch break, for although seeing the cranes and waterfowl was fun, we weren't finding the hawks we had come to see. About 12:45 p.m., I noticed a large white bird coming in from the northwest, somewhat isolated from a group of nearby Sandhills. The split second between seeing the bird and raising my binoculars, I thought it would turn out to be an American White Pelican. Through binoculars, however, it was obviously a Whooping Crane (*G. americana*), an adult no less, and I yelled this fact with such volume the bird itself probably heard me—not to mention Erickson! The crane flew almost directly overhead at no more than 45 meters, and at a slow enough pace to be photographed.

The black primaries, long legs and neck, and red crown were all visible. My initial excitement was tempered by the seeming impossibility of what just happened — Whooping Crane, a federally endangered species, should not occur anywhere near Illinois, so I rationalized the bird must have been an escapee or a waif from a re-introduction program. In retrospect, it became obvious that this was indeed a wild bird, a product of the intense storm and attendant high winds that battered the region. This crane had literally been blown off course from its normal migration route through the Dakotas and Nebraska.

Not surprisingly, other extralimital Whooping Cranes were reported from several states adjacent to Illinois on or around 11 November 1998. As far as I know, none of these birds was photographed.

Although a few old records of this species exist from Illinois, the only other recently confirmed 20th Century sighting is an adult seen and

photographed in Pike County 40 years ago!

Whooping Cranes may once have nested in Illinois; but the chances They will ever do so again are nil. Their preferred habitat of undisturbed prairie wetland was eliminated long ago. Also, the Whooping Cranes that once regularly migrated through the state came from populations, now extirpated.

Given the high fidelity of the remaining wild flock of Whooping Cranes to a narrow migration corridor through the center of the country, an extraordinary weather event at the right time of year probably represents the only hope of seeing this species in Illinois again.

—Robert Hughes
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White-winged Dove: First Illinois Record

by James O. Smith

About 20 Mourning Doves *(Zenaida macroura)* regularly visit our feeders, and they are usually cooing. On 22 July 1998, I was listening to the early morning weather forecast on the radio, when it dawned on me that a dove other than a Mourning was cooing outside. I ran to the door and listened. Sure enough, a different dove than a Mourning was calling. I quickly got my binoculars, and went outside to find the dove perched on a dead limb in an Austrian pine on the north side of the house. I immediately noticed the almost square tail, rather than the pointed one of a Mourning Dove. Expecting this bird to be a Eurasian Collared-Dove *(Streptopelia decaocto),* I looked at the neck for the collar, but there was none. [Note: The first accepted Illinois record for Eurasian Collared-Dove occurred 22 December through 21 February 1997 near Carlyle Lake in southern Illinois (Meadowlark 7:58)] Instead, there was a black line about 0.5 inch long on the upper neck under the eye, extending almost from the throat toward the back of the neck. I also noticed some white on the wing coverts and a black band just above the white terminal band. The dove was also a bit larger than the nearby Mourning Doves.

As I stood about 40 feet away from it, the bird turned, then flew to a Kentucky coffeetree 150 feet distant. Its flight resembled that of a small pigeon rather than a dove. I also saw the obvious white wing patches as it flew. I knew immediately it was a White-winged Dove *(Zenaida asiatica),* and called other birders to come see it.

Its flight resembled that of a small pigeon rather than a dove. I also saw the obvious white wing patches as it flew. I knew immediately it was a White-winged Dove...

The dove continued to call periodically all day. I had a good look at noon, and took several photos on two different rolls of film. Unfortunately, the roll of film that had the better views of the bird got lost in the mail. The photographs from the other roll of film, however, showed enough distinguishing plumage details to confirm the state's first White-winged Dove.

About 5:30 p.m. that day, I found the dove perched in the top branch of a large white oak (*Quercus alba*) where it remained for 10 minutes. Robert Chapel and Beth and John Chato arrived later. The Chatos didn't see the dove, but they heard it. Chapel returned at 6 a.m. the next day and saw it fly by. No one saw the bird after that. H. David Bohlen drove from Springfield on 23 July 1998, but did not find the dove.

Carl Linnaeus, the father of modern taxonomy, named this species' specific epithet *asiatica,* thinking that its native home was in the East Indies. However, this is a tropical American species with large summer populations in the U.S. mostly in the West and Southwest. It was introduced in southern Florida. This species primarily eats seeds of wild flowers as well as acorns and other fruits. White-winged Doves also accept sorghum and other crop grains. In his Life Histories series (1932) Arthur Cleveland Bent describes its song as a soft flute-like Barred Owl.

This species has wandered to the nearby states of Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, and Missouri.

— James O. Smith
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Investigating the Status of the Henslow's Sparrow in Southern Illinois

By Natasha Harroff

When thinking about the southern Illinois landscape, a heavily forested area usually comes to mind. However, in recent years, grasslands have also become part of the southern Illinois landscape. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has significantly contributed to the acreage of grasslands in southern Illinois, as well as statewide. The CRP grasslands support numerous bird species, including Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*), Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*), the state-endangered Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) and the state-endangered Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*).

Over the last 30 years, the Henslow's Sparrow has experienced widespread population declines, primarily due to the destruction and fragmentation of its grassland breeding habitat. Historically, the Henslow's Sparrow was common in Illinois, probably nesting in prairie habitat throughout the state (Herkert 1991). Today this bird is a local summer resident mainly concentrated in northeastern and southern Illinois.

Loss of Grassland Habitat

The Henslow's Sparrow has suffered extensive loss and fragmentation of its grassland breeding habitat. Following European settlement of North America, prairies have become increasingly rare. Approximately 0.01% of the Illinois prairie remains today. In addition to the loss of prairie habitat, secondary grasslands, such as hayfields and pastures, have also suffered degradation and loss. Increasing fragmentation of these grasslands has also contributed to Henslow's Sparrow declines, in part due to decreased average patch size and increased patch isolation. The Henslow's Sparrow winters along the Gulf Coast, and at this point and time, not much is known about its winter ecology.

The Conservation Reserve Program

The Conservation Reserve Program was established by the 1985 Food Security Act to curtail production of excess commodities and to enhance habitat for fish and wildlife populations. The CRP provides economic incentive to farmers for the placement of highly erodible cropland into permanent cover for a contract period of at least 10 years. A majority of the acreage of CRP land in Illinois (344,000 ha) has been reverted to grassland habitat.

Henslow's Sparrow at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area. Photo taken in June 1992 by Joe B. Milosevich.

Research on CRP Land in Southern Illinois

Current Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data identified southern Illinois as supporting a growing population of Henslow's Sparrows. However, increasing population numbers does not necessarily imply a stable population. At this point, knowledge of reproductive success is limited and thus this area could be an ecological trap, a site that appears suitable for nesting, but is really a poor area for reproducing. Predation and brood parasitism may also result in reproductive failure. Preliminary results from a study conducted by James Herkert suggest the number of perches and the proximity of woody plants are positively correlated to the levels of parasitism and unsuccessful nesting (per. com. J. Herkert). Furthermore, predation rates increased in fields surrounded by forest.

To gather more information, I investigated Henslow's Sparrow occupancy of CRP fields in the southern 11 counties of Illinois. I selected 32 CRP fields of approximate age (>4 years) as study sites. My study sites ranged in size from 10 ha to >100 ha, on which I found 480 singing males. Henslow's Sparrows were more abundant in the larger fields, though they also occurred in small fields. Through vegetation analysis, I found that a threshold of 40-50 cm in height is necessary to elucidate nesting.

It is also important to identify what species of grasses the Henslow's Sparrow prefers. Native prairie grasses on CRP fields were extremely rare. The most common grasses on occupied sites were Kentucky Bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), Orchard Grass (*Dactylis glomerata*), and Broom Sedge (*Andropogon virginicus*).

Implication of CRP Land in Conservation

The CRP holds potential benefits for the Henslow's Sparrow, as well as other species of grassland inhabitants. A study conducted by James Herkert (1997) revealed that recent Henslow's Sparrow population trends were significantly greater in Illinois counties with a high enrollment in the CRP, as compared to those counties with low enrollment. His study suggests that the CRP has benefitted the Henslow's Sparrow populations in Illinois.

Several factors concerning CRP fields are crucial in determining Henslow's Sparrow occupancy. The fields must be over four years in age to establish the necessary composition of preferred grasses to ensure Henslow's Sparrow occupancy. The landscape matrix surrounding CRP fields may reduce the risk of nest predation. Periodic habitat management is necessary to reduce woody invasion. Mowing may be implemented for management, though it should occur after the breeding season has concluded.

It is important to identify a species' habitat requirements and population demographics to establish a general, large-scale management plan. Information on vegetation structure and composition can also help in determining restoration projects for avian species.

More information concerning the suitability of CRP land as breeding habitat for the Henslow's Sparrow, as well as other grassland birds, is necessary to determine its worth as a management plan for wildlife.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Jim Herkert for providing information concerning his work. My research is supported by grants from the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board and the Champaign County Audubon Society. I would also like to thank the landowners for their cooperation and involvement in my research.

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—Natasha K. Harroff
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Birding McLean County

By Michael Retter

Birders often pass through McLean (pronounced mik-LANE) County, at the intersection of Interstates 55, 74, and 39, without stopping. At first glance the area appears to be an agricultural wasteland, but numerous oases within the county act as migrant traps. In fact, 302 species including some specialties have visited the county and its thousands of corn and bean fields.

All locations mentioned in this article are rural; which makes it easy for a quick birding detour. For those willing to brave the traffic, a birding guide to Bloomington-Normal proper, including the famous Ewing Park, will appear in a later issue of *Meadowlark*. If you're traveling through or on an interstate, consider combining some of the following stops for some good birding.

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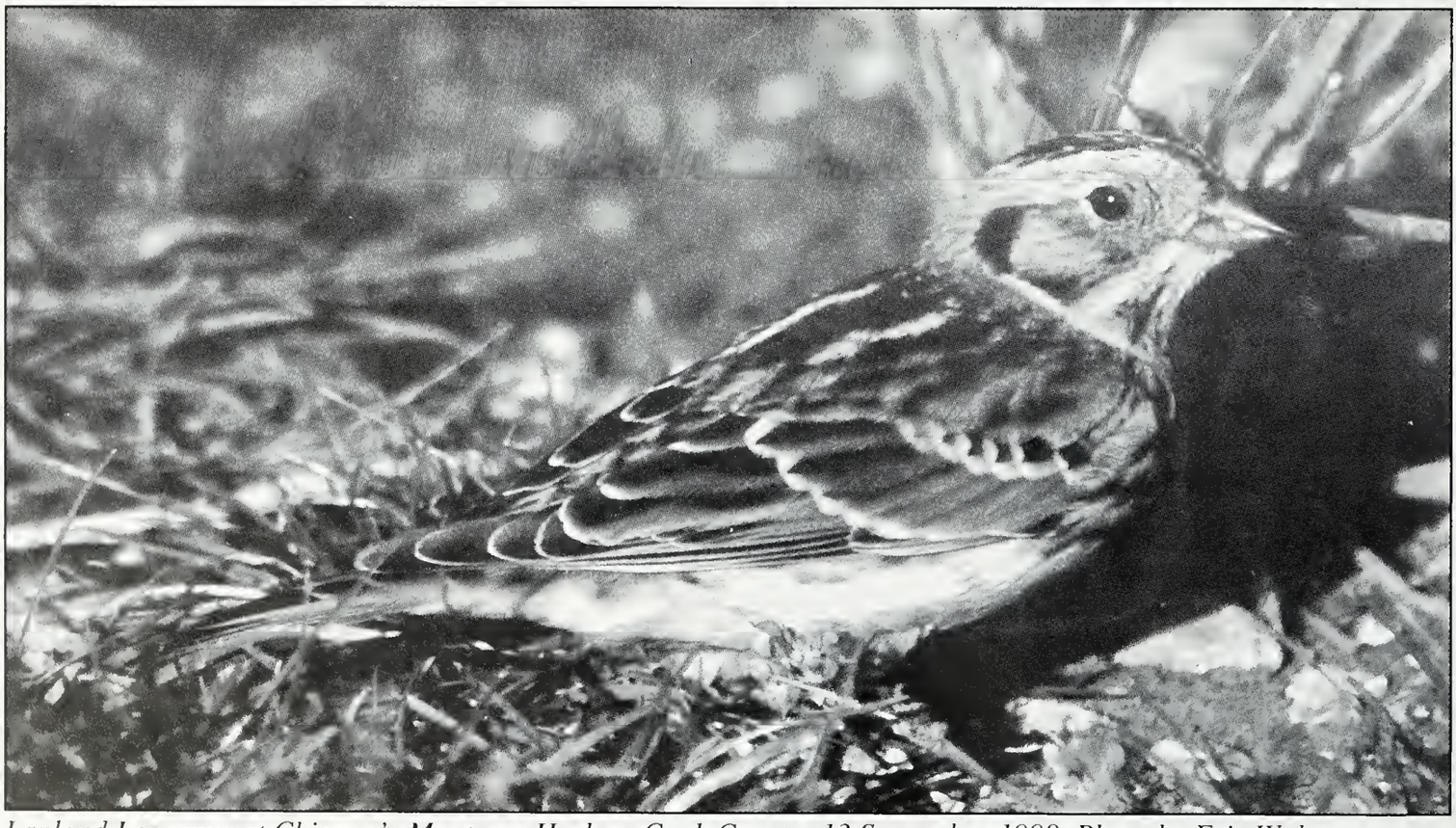
1. Funks Grove is a remote, moist prairie grove in the southwest corner of the county. Originally, it was an unusually moist oak-hickory forest with an understory predominated by stinging nettle, but the closing of the canopy has led to the predomination of maples in the grove. Birding is best during spring migration. Most notable is the number of thrushes seen then. One spring, up to 50 thrushes including all species were seen in a few hours along the roads on a drive through the area. The trees overhanging the roads can be spectacular for spring warblers if conditions are right. Look and listen in the interior moist woods for Louisiana Waterthrushes in early spring.

The DNR tract on the south end was once one of the best spots in the county for Yellow-breasted Chat and Bell 's Vireo, but recent excursions have not produced these birds. You can reach the grove by going north about 5 miles on old U.S. 66 from the McLean exit on I-55.

2. Only five miles north of the LeRoy exit on I-74, **Moraine View State Park** is one of the best birding locations in the county. Its most noticeable feature is Dawson Lake, which is good in all seasons (except summer) for waterbirds. The exceptionally deep water has hosted many unusual visitors including Common and



Lapland Longspur at Chicago's Montrose Harbor, Cook County. 13 September 1998. Photo by Eric Walters. This species is a regular winter visitor to McLean County.

Red-throated Loons, Red-necked Grebe, Surf Scoter, and Eurasian Wigeon. Recently, Greater White-fronted Geese and Canvasbacks have wintered on the lake. At peak migration, diving ducks can number into the thousands.

The diverse habitats in the rest of the park attract landbirds year-round. Of particular mention is the marsh on the north end of the lake. Walk the Tanglewood Self–guided Trail and surrounding areas to search for rails and Marsh Wrens in spring. In spring 1999, up to three pairs of Yellow-breasted Chat set up territory here. Search the scrubby Russian olive and willow thickets for Bell's Vireo; at least four pairs were on territory at the entrance of the park in the spring of 1999. Other birds easily found along the entrance road in late spring and summer include Dickcissel, Bobolink, and Yellow Warbler. In spring 1999 Louisiana Waterthrush and Kentucky Warbler set up territories on the southwest side of the lake along the road through the woods. Veeries bred here in the late 1970s and early 1980s. To get to the park, follow the signs from the LeRoy exit on I-74

3. The **Saybrook Area** contains many privately owned fields readily utilized by grassland birds. Henslow's, Savannah, and Grasshopper Sparrows, Sedge Wren, Bobolink, Short- eared Owl, and Upland Sandpiper have bred in the fields around the small town of 1000 people, and all but the latter have probably bred there within the last two years. Most of these fields are between Saybrook and Arrowsmith. Western Meadowlarks (on average four pair) sing in spring and summer near the intersections of 1500N and 3500E between Colfax and Saybrook.

4. The **ParkLands Foundation** recently purchased the land on the west side of Henline Creek just upstream from its confluence with the Mackinaw River. The other side of the creek is privately owned, but maintained as part of The Mackinaw River Project by The Nature Conservancy. The landowners welcome those enjoying nature here. It is best in spring and fall for migrant warblers and vireos. A small parking area is on the south side of the road just east of the bridge. The area is just east of the intersection of 2150 N and 2975 E., between Colfax and Lexington.

5. **Henline Pit**, an old gravel pit surrounded by 10-foot tall willows is just north of Colfax.

Although privately owned, families have used it for fishing and recreation for decades. I've been told that everyone (if behaving properly) is welcome here. It offers interesting birding year-round.

Look for sparrows in the willows during fall, winter, and spring. The pit has also been good for bittern, snipe, rails, and ducks. Flooded fields along County Route 8 (2450 N) east of Lexington attract shorebirds, ducks, and migrating raptors in spring. Ducks start to come through in March and continue until late May. The most common ducks seen include teal, shovelers, Mallards, Gadwalls, pintails, and Red-breasted Mergansers. Yellowlegs, snipe, American Golden-Plover, and Pectoral Sandpipers arrive the first week of April and usually remain through May. The more interesting shorebirds are present in mid May. The spring 1998 counts included 37 Short-billed Dowitchers, 14 Dunlin, 8 Semipalmated Plovers, 30 Least Sandpipers, and 30 Semipalmated Sandpipers. A late day search of the area in early May will often reward you with views of large flocks of American Golden-Plovers. One day at sunset in 1997, flocks numbering well into the hundreds wheeled around to land in a particular field to join the thousands that had already congregated there for the night. Hawks will sometimes dive at the immense flocks of plovers.

Rarer species observed near the Henline Pit the last couple years include Ruddy Turnstone, five Black-bellied Plovers, and Merlin. The fields adjacent to and across the road have been great for sparrows (including Henslow's) and both longspurs. In particular, Smith's Longspurs favor the no-till cornfields full of foxtail grass. The pit is just south of the intersection of 2450 N and 3200 E.

6. The original ParkLands, **the Merwyn Preserve** is just west of Lexington. This huge preserve is open in all seasons to naturalists. It is good for warblers in migration and seems to be the best spot in the county for Black-throated Blues. Walks through the prairie remnant in the southwest corner of the preserve can often yield a Yellow Rail in the appropriate seasons. Redpolls tend to favor the weedy areas in winter, and Sedge Wrens like the grasslands during summer. Bell's Vireo bred here a few years ago, and a chat was on territory in summer 1999. To get to ParkLand's Merwyn Preserve, go west from the Lexington exit on I-55 about five miles. The preserve is on the north side of the road after you cross the Mackinaw River. Look for wooden signs.

7. **Lake Bloomington** is known for waterbirds including gulls and terns. The spillway at the northern end can be good for shorebirds. The huge marsh at the southern end of the lake is worth a look. Least Bitterns and Virginia Rails may breed here. Birds found at the Lake include Eared Grebe, Henslow's Sparrow, and Snow Bunting. Just a few miles south of here, near the town of Towanda, a Burrowing Owl wintered from January to late March in 1988, and a flock of several hundred Smith's Longspurs

landed here in spring 1999. The only place for mockingbird I know of in the county is just north of here on the Mackinaw River. To get to Lake Bloomington, take the Lake Evergreen exit on I-39 and go east four miles.

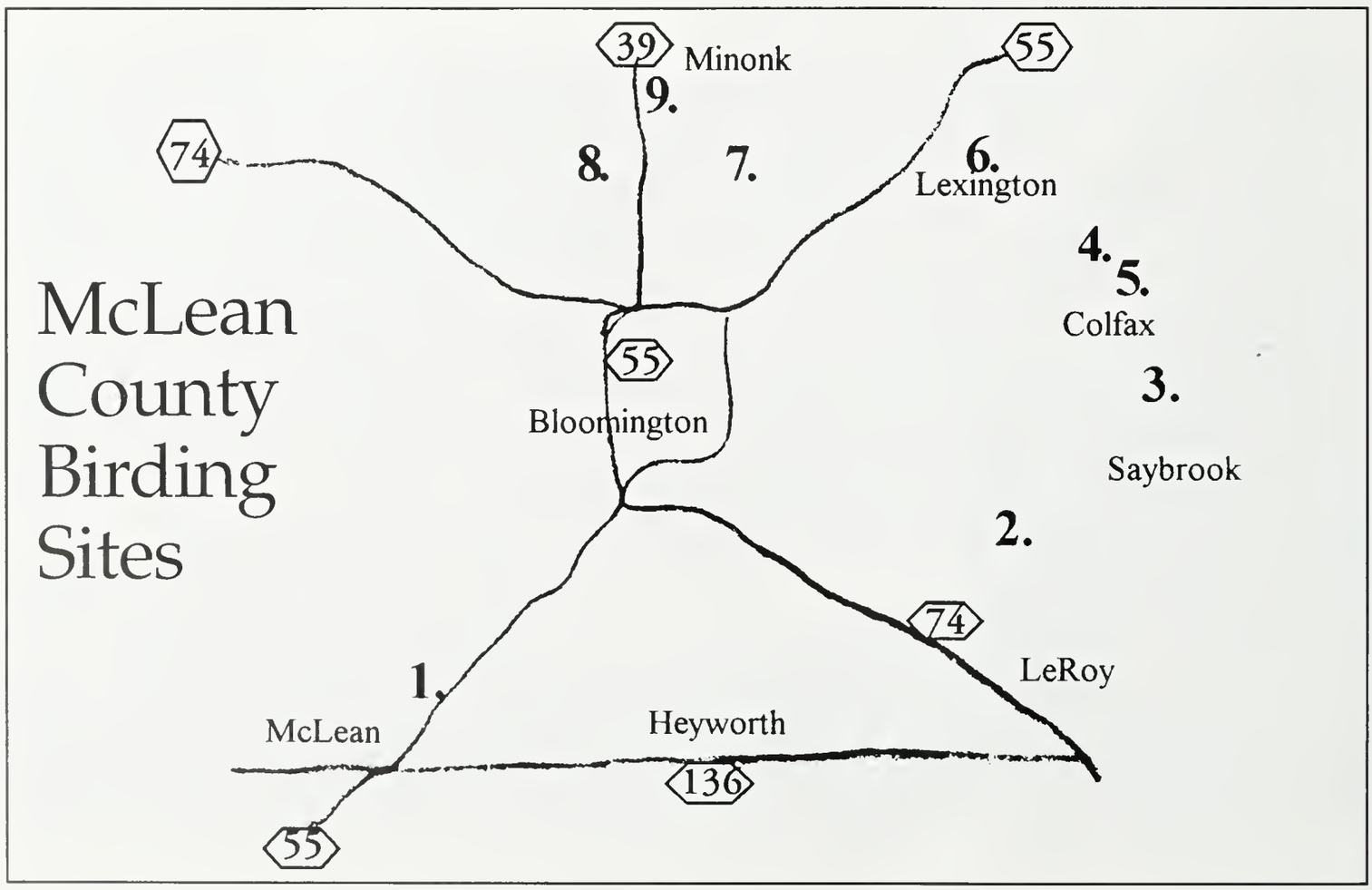
8. On the McLean-Woodford County line, **Lake Evergreen** and associative COMLARA Park may be in contention with Moraine View and Ewing for the title of McLean County's premiere birding hotspot. The lake itself attracts a high number of loons for its size. Up to 30 loons were on the small lake on one day in March 1999. Evergreen is also known for American White Pelicans and cormorants. The bridge on the south end of the lake has breeding Cliff Swallows and phoebes. Cooper's Hawk, and Prothonotary and Kentucky Warblers may breed here as well. On the east side is the Old Nature Trail, which is good for landbirds during migration. Interesting species found at Lake Evergreen include Black Tern, Trumpeter Swan, Golden Eagle, Willet, Hudsonian Godwit, Sanderling, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Long-eared Owl, and Clay-colored Sparrow. The exceptional depth of the lake (57 feet) has been attributed to helping accommodate McLean County's most famous visitor, a first-year Yellow-billed Loon, from 19-29 December, 1998. The loon was counted on the Christmas Bird Count that year. Lake Evergreen is two miles west of the Lake Evergreen exit on I-39.

9. **Along the roadsides** between Minok (pronounced mih-NUNK) and northern McLean County along IL-251, Western Meadowlarks far outnumber Easterns. Look for Smith's Longspurs in March and April in corn stubble fields with foxtail grass or in short grass and alfalfa. Look for Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings on the roadside, especially when snow-covered fields force the birds up to the roads. The Vesper Sparrow is one of McLean County's commonest breeding birds. The species has adapted to nest in corn and bean fields. Watch and listen for them on wires and on the road when you're in the "agricultural desert." Ring-necked Pheasants are common in all open habitats; occasionally you'll find a bobwhite as well.

Author's Note:

You may contact me at (309) 723-6644, Dale Birkenholz at (309) 452-8086, or Todd Bugg at (309) 828-2052 for recent bird sightings in the area. Also, please contact Dale, Todd, or me as soon as possible if you see any rare or unusual birds in the county. For more on birding McLean County, including a printable checklist of species occurrence, recent sightings, and more birding locations, go to www.iwu.edu/~mretter and click on the McLean County Birds button.

— Michael Retter
Illinois Wesleyan University
Bloomington, IL 61701



Fifth Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

by David B. Johnson and Douglas F. Stotz

Evaluations by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee ("IORC," or "the Committee") are reported here for a total of 137 records, including 101 accepted records of 63 species, and 36 unaccepted records of 30 species, plus two corrigenda records. A total of 86 observers contributed specimens, descriptions, photographs or video documenting the records included in this report. Included herein are nearly all 1997 and 1998 reviewed species evaluations and four records prior to 1997. Some records are still in dispute and the Committee is, as of this publication, still reviewing those records. If a photograph was published in *Field Notes, North American Birds* or *Meadowlark,* we have referenced those publications for that bird record evidence. Any errors of omission are the fault of the authors. In the future the Committee will also attempt to publish more judgments on historical bird records.

It should also be noted that the Committee has published an official list of bird species accepted for the state of Illinois. This publication is the Checklist of Illinois State Birds (Illinois Ornithological Records Committee, 1999). The checklist may be obtained from the Illinois Ornithological Society.

Format: The format of this report follows the conventions used in the first through fourth reports of the Committee (Goetz and Robinson 1988; Goetz 1989; Goetz 1990; Johnson, Deaton, and Clyne 1998). The records below are divided into two major groups: Accepted and Unaccepted. Each of these groups is then further divided into Review List Records and Other Records. The nomenclature and sequence of species conforms to that of the American Ornithologists' Union seventh checklist (1998) and its supplements.

An accepted record is entered with the locality including the standard abbreviation for the county, the date, and in parentheses the IORC record number (the first four characters of which give the year of the first observation), and the initials of the primary observer(s) who contributed specimens, descriptions, and/or photographs. Photographic evidence is noted following a contributor's name by an asterisk (*); when the photographic evidence is known to be a videotape, a "v" is appended (*v);*p,v indicates both photographic and video evidence presented by same contributor. Many contributing photographers also submitted written descriptions—a practice the Committee encourages. If the observers who first discovered the bird submitted documentation, their initials are set off from the initials of other contributors by a semicolon. Initial observers who did not submit documentations are not always listed. For specimen records, a sharp (#) precedes an abbreviation for the institution holding the specimen, along with that institution's catalogue number of the specimen.

We have made an attempt to reference published photographs and brief accounts (such as seasonal highlights published in MJIB) by journal number and page. Articles are cited by author and date and are indexed in the list of references. Seasonal highlights in MJIB dealing with first state records are treated as articles.

Similar information is provided for Unaccepted Records, except the observers remain anonymous, and we give a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted.

Information on the age and sex of the birds reported may be an opinion of the person(s) submitting the evidence and is not necessarily an accepted position of the Committee. All other remarks are the authors', although most of the information comes from the Committee files, which are now stored in Springfield, Illinois, as part of the Avian Ecology Program, Natural Heritage Section, Department of Natural Resources.

In several cases there are discrepancies between the details presented here vs. other published sources, especially regarding dates of occurrence. The data in this report provide the Committee's best assessment of all available information. We have not generally commented on records published elsewhere with more limited data than contained here, but we have made explicit note of apparent errors in published data. The Committee accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of information herein. Errors that come to our attention will be published as corrigenda in a future IORC report.

Abbreviations: The start of the references to seasonal reports in the journals *Illinois Birds and Birding*; *Meadowlark, A Journal of Illinois Birds*, *Field Notes; and North American Birds* are abbreviated by IBB, MJIB, FN, and NAB respectively, followed by volume and page numbers; note that the first two issues of MJIB (Volume 1, Numbers 1 and 2) were paginated separately, not sequentially within that volume, and the journal number is included for those two issues. Months are abbreviated by their first three letters.

"Northern", "central", and "southern Illinois" refer to specific subsections of the state as first defined by Gault (1922); see also Bohlen (1978). The terms "region" and "regional" apply to the Middlewestern Prairie Region as used in FN, and include Illinois as well as Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, and most of Ohio and Kentucky.

The county abbreviations follow those adopted in Johnson, Deaton, and Clyne (1998).

The 102 Illinois counties and their abbreviations are as follows:

Adams=ADA,
Alexander=ALE,
Bond=BON,
Boone=BOO,
Brown=BRO,
Bureau=BUR,
Calhoun=CAL,
Carroll=CAR,
Cass=CAS,
Champaign=CHA,
Christian=CHR,
Clark=CLR,
Clay=CLY,
Clinton=CLI,
Coles=COL,
Cook=COO,
Crawford=CRA,
Cumberland=CUM,
De Kalb=DEK,
De Witt=DEW,
Douglas=DOU,
Du Page=DUP,
Edgar=EDG,
Edwards=EDW,
Effingham=EFF,
Fayette=FAY,
Ford=FOR,
Franklin=FRA,
Fulton=FUL,
Gallatin=GAL,
Greene=GRE,
Grundy=GRU,
Hamilton=HAM,
Hancock=HAN,
Hardin=HAR,
Henderson=HND,
Henry=HNR,
Iroquois=IRO,
Jackson=JAC,
Jasper=JAS,
Jefferson=JEF,
Jersey=JER, Jo
Davies=JOD,
Johnson=JOH,
Kane=KNE,
Kankakee=KNK,
Kendall=KEN,
Knox=KNO,
Lake=LAK,
La Salle=LAS,
Lawrence=LAW,
Lee=LEE,
Livingston=LIV,
Logan=LOG,
McDonough=McD,
McHenry=McH,
McLean=McL,
Macon=MCN,
Macoupin=MCP,
Madison=MAD,
Marion=MRN,
Marshall=MRS,
Mason=MSN,
Massac=MSS,
Menard=MEN,
Mercer=MER,
Monroe=MNR,
Montgomery=MNT,
Morgan=MOR,
Moultrie=MOU,
Ogle=OGL,
Peoria=PEO,
Perry=PER,
Piatt=PIA,
Pike=PIK,
Pope=POP,
Pulaski=PUL,
Putnam=PUT,
Randolph=RAN,
Richland=RIC,
Rock Island=ROC,
St. Clair=SCL,
Saline=SAL,
Sangamon=SAN,
Schuyler=SCH,
Scott=SCO,
Shelby=SHE,
Stark=STA,
Stephenson=STE,
Tazewell=TAZ,
Union=UNI,
Vermilion=VER,
Wabash=WAB,
Warren=WAR,
Washington=WAS,
Wayne=WAY,
White=WHT,
Whiteside=WHS,
Will=WLL,
Williamson=WLM,
Winnebago=WIN,
Woodford=WOO.

Other abbreviations used throughout are:

AOU=American Ornithologists' Union
CA=Conservation Area
CAS=Chicago Academy of Sciences
CBC= Christmas Bird Count
Co.=County
Cos.=Counties
FMNH=Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago),
FP=Forest Preserve
GLNTC=Great Lakes Naval Training Center (LAK),
GLPSP=Goose Lake Prairie State Park (GRU),
IBSP=Illinois Beach State Park (LAK)
ISM=Illinois State Museum (Springfield)
L.=Lake
NC=Nature Center
NF=National Forest
NWR=National Wildlife Refuge
R.=River
SBC=Spring Bird Count
SP=State Park.

Documentors: Cindy Alberico, Bob Andrini, Michael J. Baum, David Becher (DBe), Cindy Bencheck, Frank Bennett, Vic Berardi, Richard Biss, H. David Bohlen, Denis Bohm (DBo), Melissa Brookens, Joan Bruckman, Robert T. Chapel, Elizabeth Chato, Paul R. Clyne, Hal Cohen, Myrna Deaton, William DeBaets, Tim Dever, Fairy Ditto, Marian Doyle (MDo), Josh Engel, Robert Erickson, Joseph Fahey, Karen Fisher, Robert E. Fisher, Darlene Fiske, Kirby Goslee, Brad Grover, Leroy Harrison (LHa), Ann Haverstock, Scott Hickman, Kanae Hirabayashi, Frank Holmes, Larry Hood (LHo), Robert Hughes, David B. Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Vernon M. Kleen, Greg Lambeth, James Landing, Vicki Lang, Eric Latturner, Cynthia McKee (née Watkins), Keith McMullen, Walter J. Marcisz, Igal Milchtaich, Joe B. Milosevich, Rhonda Monroe (RhM), Robert A. Montgomery, Roy Morris (RMs), Pete Moxon, Vince Moxon, Rod Myers (RMy), Michael Narish, James Neal, John O' Brien, Ken Oberlander, Dennis Oehmke (DOe), Clark Olson, Daniel J. Olson, James Phillips, Bud Polk, Marjory Rand (MRn), Robert Randall, William Reichert (WRe), Michael Retter (MRt), Justin Rink, William C. Rowe, Jeff Sanders, Wes Serafin, Albert Seppi (ASe), James O. Smith, Phoebe Snetsinger (PSn), Fred Stellema, Sheila Stenger, Alan F. Stokie, Douglas Stotz, Joe Suchecki (JSu), Jack Van Benthuysen, Eric Walters, Tony Ward, David Willard, Barbara Williams, Daniel T. Williams (DTW), Jim Ziebol.

Membership: Current members of the IORC are: Steven D. Bailey, Robert T. Chapel, Paul R. Clyne, Myrna Deaton, David B. Johnson (Secretary), Vernon M. Kleen, and Douglas Stotz (Vice Secretary). Alternates on the Committee are: Richard Biss, Robert E. Fisher, Joe B. Milosevich, and David Willard. Recent committee members who served during the review process were H. David Bohlen.

Review List: The Review List indicates those birds which the observer might encounter that the Committee is most interested in reviewing. These are species which, in general, average four or fewer records per year in the state, or which are extremely rare in all but a few counties in the state. The IORC requests and welcomes evidence concerning all records for the review species listed in the fourth IORC report (Johnson, Deaton and Clyne 1998). In addition, any species not listed in the checklist of Illinois state birds (1999) should be documented. Documentation of regular species may be appropriate when they occur out of season—i.e., exceptionally early arrival dates or late departure dates for migratory species. All first state nesting records should also be documented. Exceptionally high counts of species may also merit documentation.

Acknowledgments. This report is made possible by the thoughtful, careful, and timely review by all Committee members both past and current, and by the support of Illinois birders and institutions that contributed evidence of Illinois birds by specimens, documentations, photographs, and/or videotapes. Special thanks must go to David Willard (FMNH) and H. David Bohlen (ISM) for providing access to museum specimens. The Committee also thanks the following expert birders and professional ornithologists who contributed their time and knowledge to address the identification of many of the bird records in this report: Laurence C. Binford, Jon L. Dunn, Michael Hogg, Nancy L. Newfield, Thomas Schulenberg, Thomas Schultz, Thede Tobish, and David Willard.

ACCEPTED RECORDS – Review List Records Accepted (78 records of 45 species)

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): One in immature plumage at Horseshoe L. MAD 5 May (1997.010; DK). One basic adult at L. Springfield SAN 23 Oct-5 Nov (1997.035; HDB; MD). One basic adult at L. Clinton DEW 21 Nov (1998.062; MD, RTC).

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*): One immature near Miller City ALE 3 Jan (1997.001; MD, KM); a first state CBC record. An adult near Miller City ALE 6 Sep (1997.037; HDB, MD); These are the eighth and ninth accepted state records.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*): One male at I-57 mile marker 60 WLM 14 Sep (1998.066: FB); for an account see this issue.

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*): One at L. Renwick WLL 9 May (1998.013; JBM). One at New Cut Rd. southeast corner of MSS 18 May (1998.038; FB). One at Borrow Pits, Horseshoe L. MAD 2-9 Aug (1998.042; WCR, DK). One at Marine Pt., L. Springfield SAN 31 Jul (1998.044; HDB).

Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*): One immature at Montrose, Chicago COO 6 Sep (1997.032; RH*); second state record. An account and photo appears in MJIB 7:48.

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*): Three immatures at Kidd L. MNR 26 Jul-8 Aug (1998.045: ASe*, DK, FB, CO).

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*): One at Carlyle L. CLI 5-8 Oct (1997.065; DK). One at Frank Holten SP SCL 29 May (1998.039; KM)

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*): Two at Decatur MCN 25 Apr-5 May (1997.014; RTC, MD).

Plegadis sp. One at L. Chautauqua MSN 10 Oct (1998.073; CO). The Committee will no longer review *Plegadis sp.*

Brant (*Branta bernicla*): One at Jackson Park, Chicago COO 5 Apr (1997.030; CA); fifth state spring record and second for Jackson Park.

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*): One 7.75 miles west of Springfield SAN 20 Jun (1998.046; HDB); first county record.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*): One male at Moraine View SP McL 18-22 Feb (1997.004; BP, EC).

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*): One adult male at Carlyle L. FAY 29-30 Mar (1997.015; DK, ASe*). One adult male at Swan L. CAL 4 May (1997.016; RR). One male at Big L. BRO 10 May (1997.023; TW). One male at Drury Lane LAK 3 Apr (1998.009; DBJ); for an account of this bird and other spring 1998 Cinnamon Teals see MJIB 7:141. One male at Del Monte ponds, Mendota LAS 19-24 Apr (1998.027; RAM, DBo*, ASe*); a photo appears in MJIB 7:141. One at Frontenac Marsh DUP 9 May (1998.029; JSu), a SBC record. One at Carlyle L. CLI 29 Aug (1998.076; DK).

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*): One adult male at Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe COO 21 Feb (1997.006; WRe); an excellent sketch, see figure 1, was received by the Committee as evidence for this bird's occurrence.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): One subadult at Lincoln Gardens, L. Springfield SAN 4-9 Jun (1998.047;HDB). One at Rock Cut SP WIN 26 Jul-16 Aug (1998.055; DTW*); a well documented northern Illinois record; two photos appear in MJIB 8:31.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*): One immature at IBSP LAK 14 Oct (1997.039; RH*); remarkable that the observer had the presence of mind to quickly photograph a hawk in flight with a diagnostic image. One adult at Granite City MAD 11 Apr (1998.025; DBe);

Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*): One gray morph immature at Clinton L. DEW 5 Mar (1998.041; MD).

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*): One at Arcola DOU 9 Mar (1997.026; RTC). One near Parnell DEW 19 Dec (1997.061; RTC); a Clinton L. CBC record.

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*): One at Larry Larimore farm, north of Fairmont VER 18 May (1998.023; JOS*). One at Phil Dzuik farm, north of Fairmont VER 18 May (1998.024; JOS*). One at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area JAS 9 Oct (1998.071; DJO).

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrula martinica*): One at Steeple Chase Golf Course, Mundelein LAK 10 Apr (1997.020: #FMNH 385922) an account appears in MJIB 6:140. A pair nested successfully at L. Mermet MSS 11 Jul-10 Aug+ (1998.048; FB*v; DBJ); for a detailed account see MJIB 8:11.

Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*): One at IBSP LAK 11 Nov (1998.060; RH*, RE); first state record in 40 years; even more amazing is the fact that the two observers got hard evidence for this occurrence by taking photographs as the bird migrated south over IBSP; for an account and a photo, see this issue. A photo appears in NAB 53:59.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*): One at Carlyle L., Subimpoundment #3 FAY 17 May (1997.027; DK); first county record. Six near Ullin, 1.5 to 2 miles east of I-64 PUL 2 Jun (1998.032; VMK). One at L. Carlyle BON/FAY 12-13 Sep (1998.069; MD, HDB, ASe*);

Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*): One at Rock Cut SP WIN 22 Nov (1997.043; DTW, BW). The first inland record for the state and a first for the county; the bird was on a small rocky island near the rocky shore of Pierce

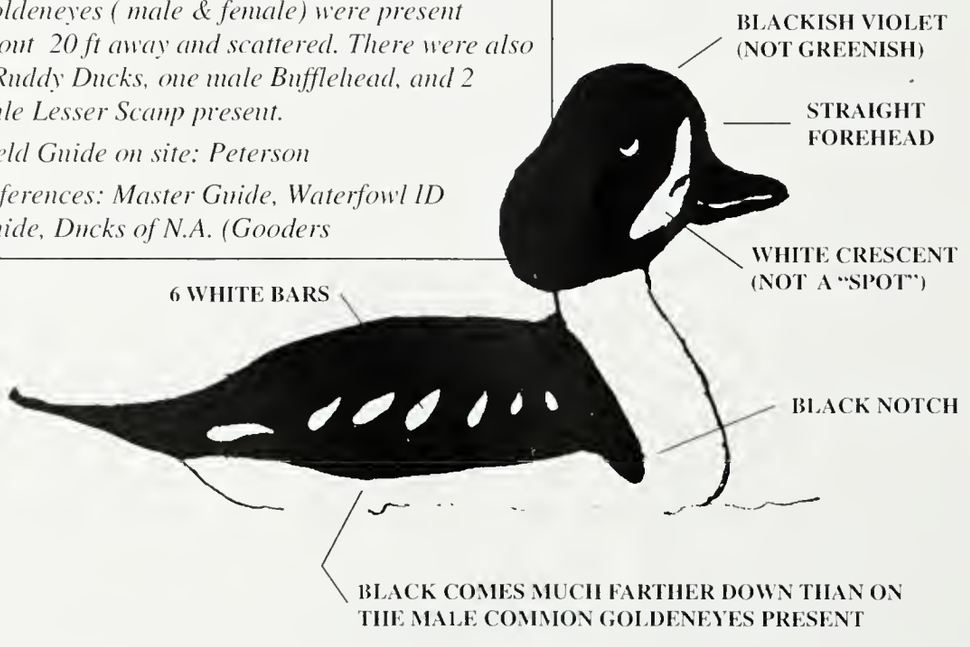
Figure 1. Barrow's Goldeneye sketch by William Reichert. Bird was documented at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Cook County on 21 February 1997.

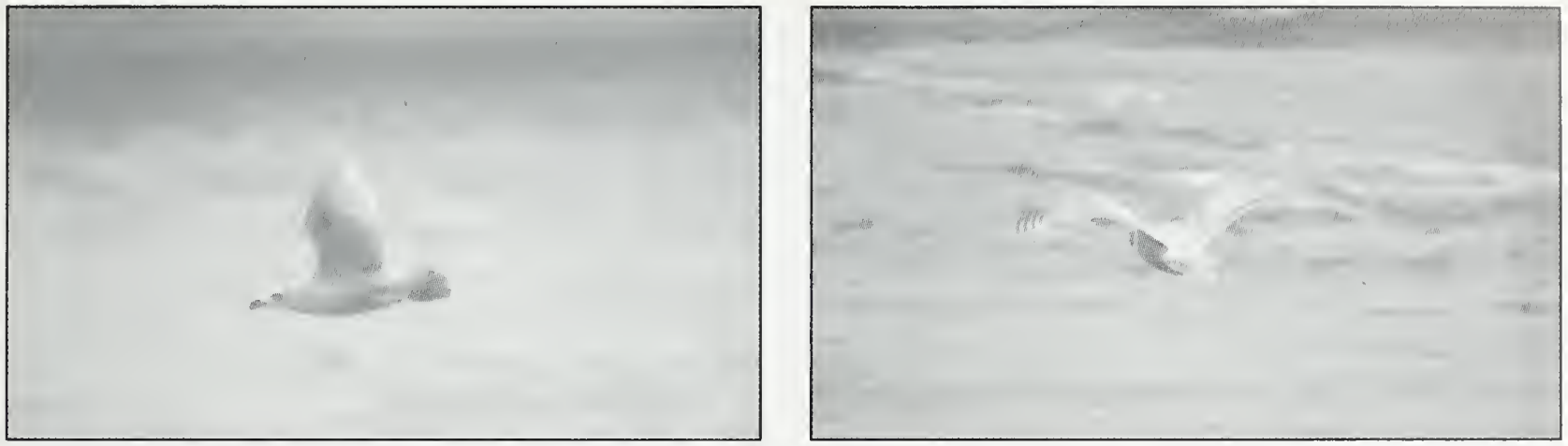
Observers: Bill Reichert & Andrew Waple

Notes: This bird was observed from 50ft with Leica 10x42 binoculars. Several Common Goldeneyes (male & female) were present about 20 ft away and scattered. There were also 2 Ruddy Ducks, one male Bufflehead, and 2 male Lesser Scamp present.

Field Guide on site: Peterson

References: Master Guide, Waterfowl ID Guide, Ducks of N.A. (Gooders


BLACKISH VIOLET (NOT GREENISH)
STRAIGHT FOREHEAD
WHITE CRESCENT (NOT A "SPOT")
6 WHITE BARS
BLACK NOTCH
BLACK COMES MUCH FARTHER DOWN THAN ON THE MALE COMMON GOLDENEYES PRESENT



First-winter Glaucous-winged Gull. Photo taken at the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area in St. Charles County, Missouri, just over the Illinois border on 8 February 1997 by Kirby Goslee. This bird was seen and documented at Mel Price Lock and Dam in Madison County, Illinois, and is the third accepted record for the state.

L. An account appears in MJIB 7:48-49. One at Waukegan Port District on rocks off the municipal beach's north pier LAK 24 Oct (1998.059; JN*); see photo in this issue.

Pomarine Jaeger(*Stercorarius pomarinus*): One immature light morph at Gillson Park, Wilmette COO 21 Nov (1997.044; RH).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*): One subadult at L. Springfield SAN 22-23 Jun (1998.049; HDB)

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*): One adult at L. Vermilion, Danville VER 26 Mar (1997.029; RTC). One near adult at L. Springfield SAN 10 Nov (1997.045; HDB). One first-year bird at Burnham Harbor, Chicago COO 13 Nov (1998.064; DS). Observer noted important field marks such as the darkish underneath — "heavily mixed with brown" and the all dark brown tail as well as size differences with adjacent Ring-billed Gulls to eliminate Ring-billed juveniles. This is the first accepted record for the state for this age class.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*): One first-summer bird at L. Springfield beach house SAN 16 May-Jun+(1998.017; HDB; JR*v).

Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*): One first-year bird at Mel Price Lock and Dam MAD 30 Jan-1 Apr+ (1997.003; WCR*, JZ, PSn, DK, KG*); a photo appears in FN 51:755. This is the third accepted record for the state; see photos in this account.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*): One adult at Waukegan Municipal Beach LAK 31 May-2 Jun (1997.012; HDB; DK, MD, RTC, DBo*); fourth state record. One immature with a dark gray carpal bar at Waukegan Municipal Beach LAK 14-17 Jun (1997.013; SH; JO, DBJ*); fifth state record. An account in MJIB 6:138 details the two records; a photo of the immature bird appears in MJIB 6:138, another photo of the same bird is published on the back cover of MJIB 6(4) which also appears in color in FN 51:1064; the correct last date seen (Jun 17) is published in FN.

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*): One at L Decatur MCN 4 Sep (1998.054; MD*; VMK, DOe*); a remarkable first state record. For an account and photos, see this issue. A color photo appears in NAB 53:118.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*): One at Urbana CHA 27 May 1997-4 Apr+ 1998 (1997.060; RTC); second accepted state record. This bird showed the gray undertail coverts and black basal tail pattern including the black outer web along with the squared-off tail. The bird was chunkier sized than a Ringed Turtle-Dove. In addition, the blackish primaries contrasting with the wing coverts was, to the Committee, diagnostic. This bird was present at this location for at least one year.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*): One at the residence of James O. Smith VER 22-23 Jul (1998.050; JOS*); first state record; first noted by the unusual call. For an account, see this issue.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*): Three at PUL 19 Dec (1997.063; VL, RhM). One at Urbana CHA 29 Mar (1998.018; RTC).

Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funerens*): One at Rockford WIN 9 Feb (1997.002; MDo, BG, RMs, MRn, FS*); an extremely rare occurrence; not since 1914 has this species been recorded for the state and region. For an account and photo see Morris (1997); a slightly different photo in FN 51:756.

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*): One adult male at East Alton MAD 7 Nov 1997-8 Jan+ 1998 (1997.046; MD, DOe*); fourth state record and first confirmed adult male record for the state. Two photos appear in MJIB 7: 74 and on the back cover. One adult male at Springfield SAN 7 Nov–20 Dec (1998.084; DOe*); second accepted alult male for the state. An excellent color photo appears in NAB 53:117. One adult female at Springfield SAN 23 Nov (1998.085; DOe*, #ISM660520). These are the fourth through sixth state records.

Allen's Hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*): One immature male at Niantic MSN 16 Nov (1997.047;HDB, MD, DOe*,#ISM 660484); a remarkable vagrant and first state record; photos and account appear in Bohlen (1999). This bird was netted, measured and photographed, and two species diagnostic tail feathers were taken. For additional helpful identification information of *Selasphorus* hummingbirds see Stiles (1972) and Heidcamp (1997). See article and photos in this issue.

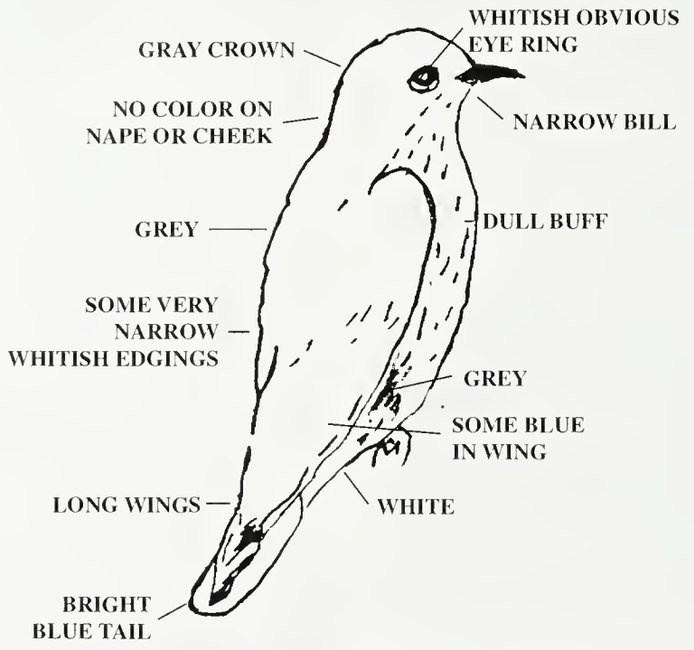
Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*): One at Fermilab DUP 28-29 Nov (1998.063; VM, PM*; REF); a first-county record, and eighth for the state. For an account and photograph, see seasonal highlights in this issue.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*): One male at McKee Marsh DUP 7-8 Oct (1998.058; HC; DBo, JSu, REF, KF*); a first county record. An account appears in this issue.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*): One male at Batavia and Fox R. 2-17 Aug KNE (1998.043; AH, DBo*, BA*, DBJ*v). One two miles northwest of Fort de Chartres MNR 3-9 Aug (1998.070; DK, FB, FH*, ASe*, JBM*).

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*): One female 1/2 mile NE of Berry SAN 4 Nov (1998.078; HDB); fifth state record, see figure 2.

Figure 2. Mountain Bluebird sketch by H. David Bohlen on 4 November 1998 in Sangamon County.



Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*): One at Klehm Aboretum and FP WIN 28 Dec-3 Mar (1996. 105, DOe*); seventeenth record for the state and possibly the same individual (1995.039) as recorded the previous winter. A photo is in MJIB 6:117. One at Northwestern University landfill, Evanston COO 10-18 Nov (1997.033; EW*; DBJ*, KO*); first county record in 12 years and eighteenth for the state. A photo appears in MJIB 7:77.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*): One at Joliet WLL 27 Nov-23 Dec+ (1997.051; JBM*); a photo appears in MJIB 7:117.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*): One at North Shore Channel or "Canal" between Dempster and Main Streets, Evanston COO 4-8 May (1998; JE; EW*); an account appears in MJIB 7:142. One at North Branch of the Chicago R., LaBaugh Woods FP, Chicago COO 20 May (1998.010; RH); sixth and seventh state records respectively.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*): One male at Sheila Stenger residence, Rockton, WIN 11 May (1996.104; SS*); see photos in this report. One male at Fairy Ditto residence, RR2 Box 86, Oquawka Township, HND mid-Apr-22 May (1997.022; FD). Apparently attending a feeder for "weeks" and noted on the state SBC.

Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*): One at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie WLL 4 Dec (1998.077; DS). Studied for a long period in the field--all diagnostic field marks were noted; this is the fourth accepted record for the state.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*): Two, a male and female at approx. 5 miles E of Woodstock McH 20 Dec (1997.049; DF) on a CBC; a very rare winter finch in Illinois.

Other Accepted Records (20 records of 17 species)

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*): One immature at Tampier L. Palos FP COO 23 May-24 Jun (1997.009; JL, MN, JBM*, JP*); a first summer record for the state. An account and photo appear in MJIB 7:25; the same photo is printed in color in FN 51:1063. Incorrect departure dates (22 Jun, 14 Jun, respectively) were published in MJIB 7:30 and FN 51:875.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*): One at Garden Prairie Rd. BOO 20 March (1997.028; RMy); a remarkable earliest spring arrival date for the state. An account appears in MJIB 6:139-140.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*): One at Sparta RAN 27 Dec 1997-31 Jan 1998 (1997.068; TD); first winter record for the state.

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*): One juvenile at L. Calumet sewage treatment district, Chicago COO 31 Aug (1997.042; RH); a remarkable record in that the bird was in fresh unmolted juvenile plumage with a heavily spotted throat, breast and belly.

Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*): One adult in breeding plumage at Gillson Park, Wilmette COO 2 Jan (1998.008; EW*). An account and photo appears in MJIB 7:109.

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*): One immature at Clinton L. DEW 8 Mar (1997.018; RTC). One immature near Randall Rd. and Rte. 72 KNE 4 May (1997.019; AFS); an account appears in MJIB 5:141. One immature at LaSalle nuclear power plant L. LAS 4 Jan (1997.066; CM*). All three kittiwakes were inland and unusual spring records.

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*): One at L. Clinton DEW 19 Dec (1997.065; HDB); recorded on the Clinton L. CBC and one of a few reliably documented occurrences for early winter in the state.

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*): One at Wooded Island, Jackson P., Chicago COO 31 July (1998.052: PRC); earliest fall arrival date for the state.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*): One at Oak Ridge Cemetery SAN 13 Nov (1997.054; HDB); latest fall departure date for the state.

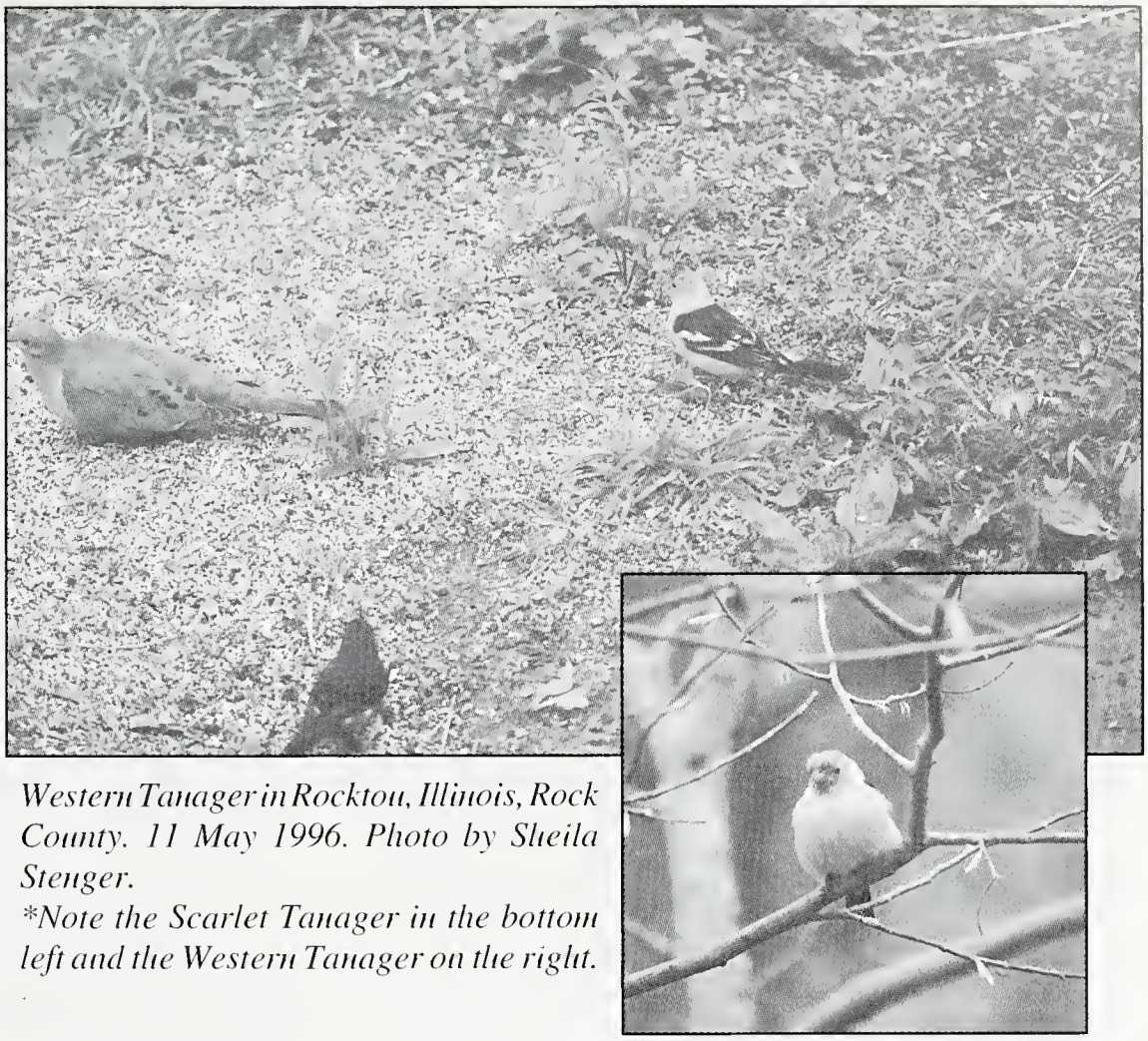
Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*): One at Carpenter Park, Springfield SAN 21 Dec (1997.064; VMK); a Springfield CBC record and at least the eighth winter record for the state.

Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*): One in the vicinity of L. Springfield SAN 25 Nov-23 Dec (1997.055; HDB); a count week Springfield CBC record and fourth early winter record for the state.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*): One at Little Red School House FP COO 21 Dec 1997-21 Jan 1998 (1997.050; WS, JBM*); an account appears in MJIB 7:109 and two photos appear in MJIB 7: 91 and on the back cover of MJIB 7(3); the same photo but in color appears in FN 52:269. This bird was a Lisle Aboretum CBC record and fourth winter record for Illinois.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*): One female at Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation, Dundee KNE 22 Dec (1997.057; RAM, LHo); recorded on the Barrington CBC, see MJIB 7:60-61, and possibly the same individual as record 1996.059. One at Chautauqua NWR headquarters MSN 27 Dec (1997.059; HDB); a CBC record for Chautauqua NWR.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*): One at entrance to island at Horseshoe L. ALE 3 Jan (1998.002; HDB); well-described winter record seen with juncos.



Western Tanager in Rocktou, Illinois, Rock County. 11 May 1996. Photo by Sheila Stenger.
**Note the Scarlet Tanager in the bottom left and the Western Tanager on the right.*

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*): One late migrant at Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe COO 21 May (1998.026; DBJ).

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*): One adult female at Mermet L. MSS 1 Jan (1998.003; FB); seen on the Mermet L. CBC.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*): One at Clinton L. Marina DEW 14 Nov (1998.056; MRt); part of this species' range expansion.

Other Accepted Forms and Hybrids — (1 record of 1 form and 2 hybrids)

Cinnamon Teal x Blue-winged Teal (*Anas cyanoptera x discors*): One breeding-plumaged male at L. Springfield and east of Springfield SAN 15 Apr-3 May (1998.015; HDB). One breeding-plumaged male at Clinton L. DEW 18 May (1998.037;MRt).

Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea*): A female specimen record at McCormick Place, Chicago COO 8 Nov (1994.055; #FMNH 367288 collected by DW, MS in prep.); first state specimen and record for this subspecies. One at subimpoundment #2, Carlyle L. FAY 29 Mar (1997.014; DK); second state record for this subspecies. Observers are encouraged to provide documentation for observations of this subspecies (Yellow Palm Warbler).

UNACCEPTED RECORDS — Review List Records Unaccepted (36 records of 30 species)

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): One at Riverlands MAD 30 Oct-4 Nov (1997.036). Possibly correct, but the description is too brief to convincingly eliminate Red-throated Loon. A "dark throat" patch reported on this bird is more suggestive of a juvenile Red-throated Loon while an apparent "white flank" patch was observed and is more indicative of an Arctic Loon. Apparently this loon was observed by many other observers—but unfortunately not enough descriptive detail was provided by observers to support a positive identification. One at Rend L. FRA 16 Nov (1998.065); possibly correct but the sketch provided looked more like a small Common Loon and Red-throated Loon was not safely eliminated by the description.

Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*): One at Carlyle L. CLI 29 Nov (1997.052). Details, especially bill color, suggested Clark's Grebe, but observers agreed that the black cap of the head extended to the eye, which is not the pattern shown by this species; had others sketched the bird and shown the placement of black in the face perhaps there would not have been as much doubt by the Committee as the yellow-orange bill certainly is a field mark for the species.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*): Six at Dark Bend, Embarass R. JAS 29 Apr (1997.025). Supportive details and sketch. However, after the second round of voting, the Committee conservatively felt the birds were too distant for a positive identification and elimination of soaring Double-crested Cormorants in flight.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*): Twenty at Lake Villa LAK 21 Aug (1997.038). A remarkable report—but the ducks were seen only briefly in flight with not enough descriptive plumage detail to secure a convincing identification.

Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*): One immature near Durand WIN 4 Oct (1998.067); identification correct but the Committee was duely concerned about origin of an immature bird without adults present—the likelihood of an escaped individual from a waterfowl collection could not be ignored as this species is often kept in captivity.

Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*): Two at Moraine View SP McL 18 Mar (1998.036); a brief look at the end of the day with bad light; there were many inconsistencies in the description—enough to rule out this rare duck inland.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): One at Camp Sagawau COO 26 Apr (1998.016); The observer gave more event detail than a plumage description. This record may well be correct but the observer's comparison of the bird's size being similar to a Peregrine Falcon was puzzling; the milky gray underparts seemed correct—but not enough to convincingly portray this kite. Two at Spoon L. KNO (1998.035); a brief and distant view with good flight characters; possibly correct but little plumage detail and failure to adequately eliminate other raptor species.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*): One near Naples SCO 9 May (1998.030); the description did not satisfactorily rule out variations in a Red-tailed Hawk and the diagnostic wing to tip of the tail—or long primaried look was not noted—nor was the white chin and throat field marks on the "dark reddish brown upper breast." One dark phase north of Colfax, Lawndale Township McL 15 Apr (1998.034); description did not rule out a dark phased Rough-legged Hawk or a dark phase immature Red-tailed Hawk.

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*): One at Larry Larimore farm, north of Fairmont VER 26 Oct(1998.023): The plumage detail provided in the documentation for this record was judged inadequate by the Committee.

Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*): Seven individuals at US 30 4 miles east of I-88 LEE 23 Oct (1998.068); the darker crowns as described for these individuals suggested American Golden-Plover as did other plumage characters; also most Mountain Plover would have already migrated to their wintering grounds by this date—photographic documentation probably is needed before this species can be safely added to the state checklist.

Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*): One alternate adult at L. Chautauqua NWR MSN 2 Aug (1997.040). Owing to the ultra rarity of this species and the identification difficulties, the record was evaluated by two experts: one from Alaska and one national expert on bird identification. Both have extensive experience with this species' identification. Both experts felt that without better substantiation (i.e. a photo or specimen) the description failed to rule out the possibility of a Little Stint, bright juvenile Semipalmated Sandpiper or as one reviewer suggested—a breeding plumaged Sanderling. Also, unfortunately other observers failed to gather evidence for this rarity. It should also be noted that extreme "heat waves" often hampered good visibility of this bird and other shorebirds at the time of observation. Photographs, or the like, of this difficult to identify species would be necessary to add this species to the state checklist.

Temminck's Stint (*Calidris temminckii*): One adult in basic plumage at Chautauqua NWR MSN 16 Sep (1997.041). Owing to the ultra rarity of this species and the identification difficulties, the record was evaluated by an expert from Alaska. The description while plausible failed to describe "a dark subfringe just inside of and

parallel to the pale edge of the fresh dorsum feathers," according to the reviewer. Also this bird is often vocal if flushed giving a trill-like call; this was not noted. In addition, the plumage detail failed to mention a basic "Spotted Sandpiper-type wash on the chest and shoulders." Meticulous detail and "harder evidence" are an absolute necessity for a record of this type. Apparently at least five experienced observers saw this bird?and only one documented it!

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*): One first-year bird at Montrose, Chicago COO 24 Jan (1998.005). The lack of a solidly dark brown tail and other soft part descriptive detail failed to convincingly eliminate a Ring-billed Gull in juvenile winter plumage.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*): One juvenile at the "Borrow Pit" MAD 11Oct-19 Dec (1998.058); an underappreciated concern is the the difficulty in assessing the different first-year plumages of Herring Gull that look like a first-year California Gull; this bird was photographed and the Committee had a national gull expert review the evidence. Basic shape (more filled in like a Herring Gull); bill a little thicker throughout and the reddish cast to the bill (not as contrasty fleshy pink in the bicolor—black/pink as in California) and finer points such as the more filled in scapulars (overall paler on California with dark center lines)—identified this bird as a first-year Herring Gull. "It is absolutely routine for first-year Herring Gulls to acquire pink at the bill base, sometimes in a pattern very similar to California. Though it was unusual for this much pink in mid-October," stated the reviewer. One at Clinton L. DEW 27-30 Sep (1998.075); because of the difficulty in eliminating a first-year Herring Gull without more concrete evidence—the Committee elected to not accept this identification; in addition the sketched provided failed to convincingly portray a first-year California Gull—particularly in the mantle and scapular sketches—plus the posture of the sketch seemed more like a juvenile Herring Gull.

Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*): One first-year bird at Peoria Lock and Dam TAZ 26 Jan-1 Feb (1997.005); the description failed to adequately rule out hybrid gulls. It was indeed unfortunate that many other observers failed obtain supportive descriptive detail at the time of observation. One first-year bird at Lake Calumet area, Chicago COO 20 Feb (1998.007); again, the description failed to adequately rule out hybrid gulls and the distance of observation seemed to weigh against a convincing argument for acceptance.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*): One at Salt Creek, Ashwood Park, Palatine COO 2 May (1998.022); possibly correct but diagnostic plumage detail not completely described; the bird did not call. One at Carrolton GRE 27 Aug (1998.051); likely correct but not enough plumage detail was described to eliminate a hybird dove and the photo sent in to the Committee did not have the large image quality and sharpness needed to assess the plumage.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*): One at UNI Co. Refuge, South Blacktop UNI 17 May (1998.019); likely correct but the documentation nearly too minimal to evaluate. A few more plumage details in the sketch would have benefited this documentation.

Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*): One at Lake Villa LAK 18 Jul (1997.048). A brief fly-by view without enough convincing key field marks for such a rarity.

Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata*) One at Wenmouth Road KNE 4 May (1998.020). For this record the Committee consulted an expert for the evaluation of this extraordinary bird record. Accordingly the flight characters as described were inconsistent with Stonechat. Stonechat has a "whirring flight" like a bumblebee. Size, posture, jizz, perching and feeding behavior as described were inconsistent with this species. Plumage detail was missing a contrasting white rump and the wing bars as described should have had a "white panel" not separated "wing-bars."

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*): One at West Du Page Woods DUP 14 May (1997.021); not enough plumage and behavioral detail for such a rare warbler.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*): One male at Arlington Heights COO 18 May (1997.007). Possibly correct but several key field marks including the black mantle were not noted. An account is in MJIB 6:140.

Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*): One at Fermi DUP (1998.028); possibly correct; the pale gray underparts and complete eye-ring were very compelling for acceptance. However, the "buff" on the sides of the breast was a field mark generally not associated with Brewer's Sparrow. Several key descriptive elements were missing—including a description of the tail—this was, however, due to a rather brief look at this bird. The Committee ultimately felt that a delayed molting immature Clay-colored Sparrow could not be safely eliminated by the description; in addition, it would have helped had the other observers documented this very rare bird.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*): One male at Downer's Grove DUP 10 May (1996.027); after much discussion and controversy the description was deemed too brief for such a rarity and the bill as described was incorrect for the species; a brief account is in MJIB 5:132.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*): One adult male at Beardstown CAS 7 May (1997.008); Possi-

bly correct and calls as described are very supportive of the identification but the Committee after a second round of review felt the descriptive detail too weak for acceptance.

Other Unaccepted Records (6 records of 6 species)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*): One at MAD 20 Dec (1997.058). A description did not eliminate a light morph Rough-legged Hawk plus the description tended to describe the event more than the bird itself. More meticulous evidence is needed to accept winter records of Osprey for the state.

Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*): One at Red-wing Slough, Antioch LAK 14 May (1997.040); possibly correct but several key field marks were not seen including the bill color.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*): One at Cemetery Rd. Elsah Township JER 10 May (1997.024). No description given and therefore the record was not accepted.

Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*): One at Bloomington McL 7 Jan (1997.006). A puzzling description with the "streaks on the breast and flanks" being more suggestive of a thrasher than a thrush.

Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*): One on the Crane L. CBC in the vicinity of MSN 20 Dec (1997.062); description almost too minimal to evaluate and other observers in the vicinity at the same time found another warbler species—a Common Yellowthroat.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*): one at SE Weldon Springs DEW 19 Dec (1997.056). A very weak description which failed to eliminate other grosbeaks and finches and female Red-winged Blackbird.

Corrigenda (2 records of 1 species and 1 unknown)

Pacific Loon (1996.086) listed as an unaccepted record in the fourth report of the IORC MJIB 7:62 should be deleted from the report as this record was the same bird (James Neal, pers. comm.) as the accepted record (1996.087) from Waukegan.

Spotted X Eastern Towhee (1996.031) in the fourth report of the IORC MJIB 7:62 should be deleted from the report as the bird in question was not accepted as a hybrid (only a "possible" hybrid) by the Committee.

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See page 54 for journal abbreviations.

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Anhinga in southern Illinois

On Monday morning, 14 September 1998, I headed to Rend Lake in southernmost Illinois for another day of fall shorebirding. I was driving my usual route of I-57 north to exit at Sesser or Ina. Just 1 mile north of Johnson City at mile marker 60, my morning of birding got off to an early and excellent start. Flying south over the south bound lanes was a large, glossy black bird with white streaking and large white patches on the upper wings. The neck was long, thin, and fully extended. Tail was very long, fanned out, and rounded in shape. The bill was long, yellow, and pointed.

As I stood on the shoulder of the interstate, the bird flew almost directly over. I know cars whizzing by were wondering what I was watching, but if they could read lips, they would have seen, "Wow, an adult male Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)! Life bird! Awesome!" What a great way to start a day of shorebirding!

There have been less than 10 records of Anhinga listed in Bohlen (1989, The birds of Illinois, Indiana Univ. Press) for this century. Robinson (1996, Southern Illinois Birds: an annotated list and site guide, Southern Illinois University Press) suggested that future southern Illinois records may come from postbreeding dispersals of Anhinga from Reelfoot Lake in Tennessee where the species breeds–perhaps this was just such a record.

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Mew Gull in Chicago

On 13 November 1999, I was back in Chicago after a two week trip to Ecuador. I looked at the messages on IBET, called the bird alert, and found that I had missed a major movement in gulls, especially Franklin's Gulls (*Larus pipixcan*), along the Lake Michigan lakefront. So, I decided to check the waters around Grant Park at lunchtime. I started by looking over Burnham Harbor from the west side, where I saw, amid the large numbers of Ring-billed Gulls (*L. delawarensis*), a first year gull that immediately stood out as smaller than the Ring-bills with a smaller, more delicate bill. Its plumage was also substantially darker than the first-year Ring-billed Gulls it accompanied, looking for all the world like a tiny first year Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*) in plumage. I suspected that this bird was a first year Mew Gull (*L. canus*), so headed to the east side of the harbor for a better look. I found the bird still present among the Ring-billed Gulls when I set up at the Yacht Club. Conveniently, a number of Ring-billed Gulls were around the bird for direct comparison. After some study, I concluded that the bird was in fact a first-year Mew Gull. Among the Ring-billed Gulls could be seen larger and smaller individuals, corresponding to male and female birds. Structurally the Mew Gull was clearly smaller than even the smallest Ring-billed Gulls, standing shorter, and being shorter from its bill to the tip of its wings. Especially, though, the small bill stood out, giving it a pigeon-like look. The bill was dark-tipped which contrasted only slightly with a paler base, unlike the first year Ring-billed Gulls, which had clearly bicolored bills.

The plumage was much more extensively brown, especially on the underparts, than the first year Ring-billed Gulls with it, although the brown was paler than that on the Ring-bills. The tail was mostly medium brown, with a little mottling at the base, very unlike a first year Ring-billed Gull's mainly white tail with a narrow, sharply defined black subterminal band.

There have been nearly 20 Mew Gull records accepted in Illinois, mostly from the Lake Michigan lake-front. Oddly, however, as far as I can tell they have all been adults. It seems likely that first year Mew Gulls have been overlooked by Illinois observers, since there is no reason that adults should outnumber immatures so substantially here. Observers should be on the lookout for small dark-plumaged first year birds among flocks of Ring-billed Gulls.

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Probable King Eider at Evanston

Sunday, 1 November 1998, was a day that I will never forget. Thousands of birds streamed by the Northwestern University Landfill in Evanston. A strong cold front had just come through and strong northeast winds persisted throughout the morning, causing perfect conditions to view ducks and other waterbirds as they flew by along Lake Michigan.

At 8:00 AM, I spotted a larger duck heading towards me from the north in a flock of scaup. My initial reaction

was that it would be a scoter, which were unusually numerous that day. However, as it neared, I noticed some marks inconsistent with any scoter. Even at a distance, I noticed that the bird's wing beats were slightly slower and deeper than the Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) that it was with.

As it flew by me about 10 – 12 m away, its bright orange-pink bill stood out, making me think the bird might be an eider, probably a King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*). As I knew this would be an extraordinary record, I gathered as many field notes as I could during the short duration of the view.

The bill was bigger and thicker at its base than the scaup. It had a dark head, offset by a white upper back. Its head, back, wings, and belly were all dark, but its breast was whitish, and there was an offsetting pale oval on its dark flanks. These marks led me to conclude that I had probably observed a King Eider. (Bohlen. 1989. The birds of Illinois. Indiana University Press), listed King Eider as a very rare winter resident in Illinois with only 20 records for the state and said, "Most arrival dates are in mid-November." I learned that other reports, near the timing of my observation, of King Eider from along the bottom of Lake Michigan in both Michigan and northern Indiana were also supportive of my observation.

—Josh Engel
2653 Broadway
Evanston, IL 60201

Yellow Rail in Downtown Chicago

Sometimes you find the strangest birds in the strangest places. Downtown Chicago is often alive with bird activity during migration, so I always bring my binoculars and field guide to work in case something unusual turns up. On 17 September 1998, I decided to take an early lunch. While walking on Monroe Street between Franklin and Wells, I heard some commotion and saw a pedestrian almost step on a small bird that rose up from the sidewalk and scurried under a parked car. I got down on my hands and knees to look under the car, and saw what looked like an immature Sora (*Porzana carolina*) cowering there. I could not get a great look at the bird because it was so dark under the car, and I did not want to get too close and flush it, so I left it alone.

Several hours later, I realized that what I saw might not have been an immature Sora. I went back with my binoculars, and amazingly, the bird was still there. After further study, I decided that this bird was very probably a Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*), but I still was not sure. I went back to the office and called Sue Friscia and Wes Serafin for help on the identification. Friscia and Serafin both thought I could be right, and decided to fight the rush hour traffic to check out this bird. I returned to the bird, which was right where I left it—hiding behind a tire. After some anxious moments (including people passing within a foot of the bird, and various delivery people knocking the car that the bird was hiding under) Friscia and Serafin arrived. After examining the bird with a scope and seeing it raise its feathers, we all agreed that this was indeed a Yellow Rail. The COS Rare Bird Hotline was activated, and several other birders were able to see this bird. It eventually walked out onto the sidewalk and posed for photos. After the bird flew into a large plate-glass window, the birders who were still present grabbed the bird and deposited it safely in some bushes on Columbus Drive, near Grant Park.

Yellow Rail in downtown Chicago. 17 September 1998. Photo by Kenneth R. Wysocki.

—Kenneth R. Wysocki
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Email: kwysocki@ix.netcom.com

Say's Phoebe at Fermilab

On the sunny to blustery afternoon of 28 November 1998 my brother, Vince Moxon, and I decided to embark on a spur of the moment trip to Fermilab to look for Greater White-fronted Geese. Little did we know, that this short trip would net a lifer for us and many other birders. After arriving at Fermilab we pulled up to what I felt would be our closest look at the geese. Even before exiting the car we glimpsed a bird with a unique behavior as it flitted from fence to the ground and back, taking cover in a nearby oak.

Barely out of the car, Vince said, "What have we got here?" As I focused in on the bird in the oak, Vince stated, "I think we have something very different!" It took several minutes for better looks and I got a couple of quick photos with my camera when the bird was out in the open. Although I was certain we had observed a Say's

Say's Phoebe at Fermilab, DuPage County, 28 November 1998. Photos by Pete Moxon.

Phoebe (*Says sayornis*) I had never seen one before. For the next 40 minutes or so the bird displayed in classic phoebe style: tail pumping, flitting from the fence to the ground; fluttering down the fence line, and perching on a nearby buildings and the earth berm north of the buildings.

We notified the DuPage and Chicago rare bird alerts or hotlines and called Bob and Karen Fisher to get the word out quickly to birders. We continued to watch and record written plumage detail such as the gray-brown back; black tail above and below; head darker than back; throat and breast grayish; dull orange belly; dark eyes and single thin white wing bars—on the spot as we observed key field marks and other details such as the constant wagging of the bird's tail as well as the pumping of its tail whenever it landed; these original notes and photos are on file with the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee.

The next morning I was privileged to show nearly 20 people the Say's Phoebe although it was not always easy to find in the winds. What made the whole experience so enjoyable and fulfilling is that we got to share this rare phoebe discovery with others. That was the last day the phoebe was seen.

— Pete Moxon
320 South Washington
Wheaton, IL 60187

— Vince Moxon
3903 Bluebird Lane
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

DuPage County's First Vermilion Flycatcher

The path on the west side of McKee Marsh, Winfield, Illinois, meanders through an oak savanna and opens into a small grassy field. Bluebird houses are in the field and adjacent to the marsh. A new elevated platform overlooks the marsh. It is a splendid place to view birds. Here the interface of marsh, swamp, edge woods, and grasses mingle. A large dead poplar once sat in the marsh near this point, a sentinel that had a history of birds that have graced its branches through the years. An Osprey, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, herons, cormorants, and an Anhinga have left their mark on this grand old tree, now only a stump. Perhaps the ghost of this tree attracted the special bird this day, 7 October 1998.

My wife Joanne and I take hikes almost daily, now that I am retired. Chasing rare species used to be a passion. Today I just enjoy rambles through the woods and fields, accepting nature's bounty, whatever may be served up. Characteristically, Joanne, prefers to travel without binoculars. She sees things better than I do, even though I sport 10 x 42s.

On this day, we strolled through the woods and grassy fields without any expectations. As we approached the new raised wooden platform overlooking the marsh, my wife appeared to be studying something perched on one of the bluebird houses. She said it looked like a tiny pumpkin. The skeptic that I am—I wanted to say, "yeah sure, a pumpkin sitting on a bluebird house." From past experience, I knew that I had better investigate whatever Jo had been watching.

I focus my binoculars on the bluebird house in question. A small bird is perched on the house, not blue, not a pumpkin—but a small vibrant red and dark brownish bird. I'm sure that most birders when confronted with a rarity when not expected, must search his/her mind for an identification. Fortunately I had many experiences with this bird—a Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*).

We spent 20 minutes observing the bird perched and flycatching. My instincts told me that this bird was rare for this area; only once had I seen a Vermilion Flycatcher East of the Mississippi. Years ago one showed up on the Chicago River. At that time I took several pictures of it. Today I just wanted to share this bird with others. I immediately went home and called Jim Frazier to spread the word. Fortunately the bird remained in the area forthe rest of the day and one more day to boot. Several birders did see the bird before it departed the area or perhaps it was consumed by one of the many raptors that frequent the marsh edges. Now when we take our hikes, I listen to my wife carefully. Pumpkins, pixies, elves, it doesn't matter. I look when she beckons.

— Hal Cohen
2521 College Road
Downer's Grove, IL 60516

Field Notes

Drawing of Lapland Longspur by Michael Retter.

The 1998 Fall Season

by Robert T. Chapel

This fall was unusually warm each month, closely paralleling the global trend that made 1998 the warmest year on record. The above normal temperatures brought an early onset to migration and prolonged it well into December. Very late stragglers included an amazing Barn Swallow on **6 Dec**, Black-throated Blue Warbler on **26 Nov**, and Pine Warblers to the end of the period. Although it is hard to prove a direct causal effect between weather and the occurrence of specific birds, the two best finds of the fall may have been directly related to specific weather conditions. Illinois' first **WHOOPING CRANE** (see separate story) since 1958 showed up following a massive storm system from the West, with very high winds, while Illinois' first ever **BLACK SKIMMER** (see separate story) was found shortly after Hurricane Earl hit the Gulf Coast. Another weather-related event was a massive fallout caused by a severe storm on 3 Nov. Huge numbers of loons and numerous waterfowl were witnessed on many downstate lakes as well as along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Other good finds this past season were **Pacific Loon** at Clinton Lake, **Anhinga** (see seasonal highlights) in Williamson County, **Tricolored Herons** (see photo in Field Notes) at Springfield and Madison County, **White Ibises** in Monroe County, **Cinnamon Teal** at Carlyle Lake, **Black Rail** at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area, **Mew Gull** at Chicago, **two Rufous Hummingbirds** in Springfield, **Say's Phoebe** at Fermi Lab (see seasonal highlights), **Vermilion Flycatcher** at McKee Marsh (see seasonal highlights) (Du Page Co), **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** in Monroe County and in Batavia (see seasonal highlights), and **Mountain Bluebird** at Sangamon Co. The Batavia Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, the Vermilion Flycatcher, and the Say's Phoebe all were seen within 5 miles of one another! In addition to the above, the Mermet Lake **Purple Gallinules** continued to be seen into the early fall. Amazing for where they were found were a Yellow Rail under a parked car in downtown Chicago (see seasonal highlights and photo) and a Whimbrel eating garbage in a street-corner park on the north edge of Chicago. Other highlights of the season include the above-mentioned loon migration, including good numbers throughout the late fall and several sightings of Red-throated Loons.

American White Pelicans continue to appear in huge numbers in the Illinois and Mississippi River valleys, as they have for the past five years. Sandhill Cranes staged another good migration. A single day sighting of over five thous and birds in Villa Park in Du Page County (and over ten thousand birds at that location for the season) was probably the highlight of their migration. The phenomenal multi-state eastward invasion of Franklin's Gulls, reaching the Atlantic coast, was reflected in the good numbers of Franklin's Gulls seen in Illinois, including 1,000+ seen in a field near Momence.

While there were early movements of Pine Siskins and Red-breasted Nuthatches, and a few scattered sightings of both Crossbills, there has been no sign that this will be a "winter finch" season. The early nuthatches and siskins apparently passed right through, as few were seen at the end of the period. Northern Shrikes, however, appeared in good numbers, with several making it as far as central Illinois.

Although several observers thought that this fall's passerine migration was exceptionally good, many seasoned veterans failed to be impressed, and the overall numbers bear them out. While some species occurred in good numbers, and there were exceptional numbers of some individuals, including Connecticut Warblers and Black-throated Blue Warblers, the overall impression was of a fairly ordinary migration. However it was far superior in comparison to last Spring's migration, which may have contributed to feelings that it was a better migration than it actually was.

Shorebirds were seen in the expected places and in

good, but not exceptional numbers. Lake Chautauqua continues to offer the premier shorebird concentrations in Illinois. Good numbers of shorebirds and goodspecies totals were also found at Carlyle Lake, Lake Calumet, and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Some shorebirds lingered late, with many still being seen into December.

The waterfowl migration seemed late, but good numbers of waterfowl had reached traditional concentration points by November. Geese, however, were very late, and southern Illinois populations were very low in their traditional concentration points. Severe winter weather will be needed to push the geese further south.

A special thanks is extended to all contributors to this report, who are listed here in full and by initials following each observation: Cindy Alberico, Cornelius P. Alwood, Dave Bohlen, Denis M. Bohm, Frank Bennett, Irene Benjamin, Pat Brown, Richard Biss, Richard Bjorklund (RBj), Ron Bradley (RBr), Steve Bailey, Sigurd Bjorklund (SBj), Todd Bugg, Hal Cohen, Karin Cassel, Paul Clyne, Robert Chapel, Scott Carpenter, Donald Dann, Myrna Deaton, Sheryl De Vore, Tim Dever, Alan Eisner, Josh Engel, Robert Erickson, Carolyn Fields, Karen Fisher, Matt Fraker, Robert Fisher, Ronald C. Flemal, Sue Frisia, Brad Grover, Ann Haverstock, Brian Herriott, Frank Holmes, Jim Hampson, Leroy Harrison, Louis Hanes (LHa), Michelle Horath (waterfowl surveys), Marianne L. Hahn, Robert Hughes, Scott Hickman, David Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Eric Kershner, Vernon Kleen, James Landing, Cynthia K. McKee, John McDaniel, John D. McKee, Keith McMullen, Peter Moxon, Roy Morris, Robert A. Montgomery, Thomas May, Vince Moxon, Walter Marcisz, R. James Neal, Clark Olson, Dennis Oehmke, Daniel J. Olson, Adam Reyburn, Department of Natural Resources goose surveys (DNR), Kevin Richmond, Michael Retter, William Rowe, Albert Seppi, Alan F. Stokie, Darrell Shambaugh, Douglas F. Stotz, Gerda Schild, Illinois Ornithological Society field trips (IOS), Joe Suchecki, James O. Smith, Leonard Stanley, Richard Sandberg, Wes Serafin, Craig Thayer, Chris Williamson, Dan Williams, David E. Willard, Geoff Williamson, Helen Wuestenfeld, Jeff Walk, Ken Wysocki, Peter Weber.

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

EA	=	Earliest Arrival(s)	pr.	=	pair	FWA	=	(State) Fish and Wildlife Area
MC	=	Maximum Count(s)	ph	=	photographed	L	=	Lake
LD	=	Latest Departures(s)	*	=	documented record	NWR	=	National Wildlife Refuge
ad.	=	adult	m.ob.	=	many observers	R	=	River
subad.	=	subadult	Co(s)	=	County (Counties)	SP	=	State Park
imm.	=	immature	CA	=	Conservation Area	IORC	=	Illinois Ornithological Records Committee
yg.	=	young	FP	=	Forest Preserve			

Carl.L	=	Carlyle Lake (Clinton, Fayette, & Bond Cos)	LincP	=	Chicago's Lincoln Park (Cook Co)
CBG	=	Chicago Botanic Garden (Glencoe, Cook Co)	LRen	=	Lake Renwick (Will Co)
Chi	=	Chicago (Cook Co); see also JP, LincP, GrantP	LShel	=	Lake Shelbyville (Moultrie & Shelby Cos)
Clin.L	=	Clinton Lake (De Witt Co)	MidewinPr	=	Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (Will Co)
Fermi	=	FermiLab at Batavia (Du Page Co)	MTwain	=	Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun Co)
Fishhk	=	Fishhook Wildlife Management Area (Moultrie Co)	Palos	=	Palos Forest Preserves, including Little Red School House Nature Center, Saganashkee Slough, etc. (Cook Co)
GrantP	=	Chicago's Grant Park/Burnham Park (south to McCormick Place) (Cook Co)	Pr.Rdg Co)	=	Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper
HL	=	Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)	Rend L	=	Rend Lake (Franklin & Jefferson Cos)
IBSP	=	Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)	Sang.L	=	Sangchris Lake SP (Sangamon & Christian Cos)
IL	=	Illinois	Spfld	=	Springfield (Sangamon Co)
JP	=	Chicago's Jackson Park and vicinity (Cook Co)	Wauk	=	Waukegan (Lake Co)
LCal	=	Lake Calumet and vicinity (Cook Co)			
LChau	=	Lake Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)			
LSNucPlnt	=	La Salle County Nuclear Plant (La Salle Co)			

In the body of the report, county locations are omitted for the following cities and parks: Bloomington (McLean Co), Decatur (Macon Co), Durand (Winnebago Co), Evanston (Cook Co), Mermet L CA (Massac Co); O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), Pecatonica (Winnebago Co), Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), Rockford (Winnebago Co), Urbana (Champaign Co), and Wilmette (Cook Co).

Transparent directionals such as ea. = east(ern), ne. = northeast(ern), so. = south(ern), etc., are used where relevant. When information on counts greater than one, on sexes, and/or on ages of birds observed is available, it is generally included in parentheses after the date of the record. No number signifies single birds. Headings for species requiring IORC review appear in **CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLDFACED** fonts; records that are still under review are noted at the end of this report. Noteworthy dates and sites of occurrence and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole or for particular regions of the state are **underlined and boldfaced**, and some further editorial remarks are **boldfaced**.

1998 FALL SEASON

Red-throated Loon

EA: 22-28 Oct, Spfld (*DB, MD). MC: 2, Clin.L, 13 Nov (RC). LD: 28 Nov, Gladstone (Henderson Co) (AR). Others: 25 Oct, Decatur (MD); 31 Oct - 1 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 1 Nov, Evanston (JE); 3 Nov, Decatur (MD); 4 Nov, Wilmette (JE et al.); 12 Nov, IBSP (DJ); 14 Nov, Wilmette (RC); 27 Nov, Evanston (AFS).

PACIFIC LOON

18-24 Nov, Clin.L (RS, *RC, *MD, m.ob.). About 22 records for IL.

Common Loon

EA: 1 Oct, Spfld (DB); 31 Oct (2), Rend L (FB). MC: 200+, Clin.L, 3 Nov (MD); 200+, Decatur, 3 Nov (MD); 188, Evanston, 1 Nov (JE); 103, Clin.L, 13 Nov (RC); 37, Rend L, 19 Nov (LS). To end of period. Other: Summering bird present to 11 Aug, Monroe Co (DK).

Pied-billed Grebe

MC: 335, Spfld, 21 Sep (DB); 57, HL, 17 Sep (KM); 56, LCal, 9 Oct (DFS). LD (north): 9 Dec, JP (KC).

Horned Grebe

EA: 6 Oct, Spfld (DB); 13 Oct (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 200+, Decatur, 3 Nov (MD); 107, Carl.L, 26 Nov (DK).

Red-necked Grebe

EA: **26 Aug**, MTwain (Jersey Co unit) (*HW, m.ob.)—**earliest IL arrival**. LD: 1 Nov, Evanston (JE). Other: 8-12 Oct, Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation (Kane Co) (RAM). The earliest previous arrival for Illinois is 22 Sep 1974.

Eared Grebe

EA: 7 Sep (2), Spfld (DB). MC: **9**, Carl.L, 12 Sep (MD)—**record fall high count**; 4, Shabbona L (DeKalb Co), 21 Oct (DS). LD: 25 Nov, Spfld (DB); 18 Nov, Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (DFS). Others: 18 Sep (3), Decatur (MD); 22 Oct, Clin.L (RC); 22 Oct, Evanston (JE); 25 Oct, O'Fallon (DK).

Western Grebe

EA: 13-21 Nov, HL (WR, FH, KM). LD: 28 Nov, Gladstone (Henderson Co) (AR). ***Aechmophorus* Grebe, sp**?: 22 Oct (pale individual), Clin.L (*RC).

American White Pelican

EA: 29 Aug, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (CKM, JDM); 13 Sep (6), LChau (RC). MC: **4,000**, MTwain, 31 Oct (HW); 765, LChau & Clear L, 19 Nov (RBj, SBj). LD: 21 Nov (300), LChau. (KR et al.). Others: 1 Aug (2 summered, 1 injured), LShel (MD, m.ob.). Continued increases, with **new record high count for IL**, but see *Meadowlark* 5.2:63.

Double-crested Cormorant

EA: 29 Jul (2), Spfld (DB). MC: **10,000+**, Carl.L, 26 Sep (DK); 2,000, MTwain, 31 Oct (HW). LD (north): 7 Dec, JP (KC).

ANHINGA

14 Sep (ad.), Williamson Co (*FB). See seasonal highlights.

American Bittern

EA: 26 Sep, Carl.L (IOS). LD: 28 Nov, Gladstone (Henderson Co) (AR).

Least Bittern

EA: 8 Aug (2), Madison Co (DK, WR). LD: 26 Sep, Carl.L (PB, IOS).

Great Blue Heron

MC: 435, LChau, 27 Aug (RBj, SBj); 58, Carl.L, 19 Sep (KM). LD (north): 13 Dec, JP (PC).

Great Egret

MC: 1,075, LChau, 27 Aug (RBj, SBj); 300, Stump L (Jersey Co), 3 Aug (DK). LD: 27 Nov, St. Clair Co (KM); 2 Nov, Palos (CT).

Snowy Egret

EA: 12 Jul, LCal (RC, m.ob.). MC: **125**, East Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co), 21 Aug (KM); 3, LCal, 8 & 12 Aug (JL). LD: **1 Nov** (ad.), HL (FH)—**ties previous IL late date**.

Little Blue Heron

EA: 30 Jun (3 imm.), Spfld (DB). MC: 100, Stump L (Jersey Co), 3 Aug (DK); 12, LChau, 3 Sep (RBj, SBj); 8, LCal, 7 Sep (GW). LD: **1 Nov** (imm.), Decatur (MD)—**record IL late date**.

TRICOLORED HERON

31 Jul (subad.), Spfld (*DB); 2-16 Aug, HL (*DK, FH-ph, m.ob.). See photo.

Cattle Egret

MC: 200, East Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co), 21 Aug (KM). LD: 15 Oct, HL (FH).

Green Heron

MC: 10, Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co), 8 Aug (DK); 9, Heyworth (McLean Co), 31 Aug (MF); 5, JP, 6 Sep (PC); 5, Palos, 16 Aug (DFS); 5, Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co), 15 Aug (KM, SD). LD: 5 Nov, Heyworth (McLean Co) (TB); 13 Oct, JP (PC).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 19 Jul (2 ad.), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM). MC: 50, LCal, 12 Jul (DJ et al.); 32 (24 ad.), LSNucPlnt, 8 Aug (CKM, JDM). LD: 12 Dec, Urbana (RC); 29 Nov (imm.), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 30 Jul (imm.), JP (PC). MC: 5 (2 ad., 3 imm.), Madison Co, 8 Aug (WR). LD: 30 Sep (imm.), JP (PC).

WHITE IBIS

27 Jul (3 imm.) - 8 Aug (2 imm.), near Kidd L (Monroe Co) (*DK, *FB, KM, IOS). About the twentieth IL record.

Tri-colored Heron in Madison County, 16 August 1998. Photo by Frank Holmes.

***PLEGADIS*, sp?**

10 Oct, LChau (*CO). Other: 17-18 Oct, Carl.L—no details.

Turkey Vulture

MC: 100+ (roost), Charleston (Coles Co), 21 Oct (RBr); 72, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 7 Sep (RB); 68, Spfld, 21 Oct (DB); 58, Middle Fork R FP (Champaign Co), 4 Oct (RC); 56, Fayette Co, 26 Sep (WS). LD: 29 Nov (tagged), Spfld (DB); 12 Nov, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB); 12 Nov, Rockford (DW).

Greater White-fronted Goose

EA: **1 & 31 Aug** (injured?), Rend L (LS, FB). MC: **186**, Carl.L, 11 Nov (KM); 97, Clin.L, 14 Nov (MD et al.); 74, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 13 Nov (RB). LD (north): 27 Nov (3), Normal (McLean Co) (MR); 17 Nov, Winnebago Co (RM). Continued increases.

Snow Goose

EA: 23 Oct (5 blue), Buckhart (Sangamon Co) & Spfld (DB); 7 Nov (6), Carl.L (KM). MC: **25,000**, Rend L, 23 Nov (DNR); 612, LSNucPlnt, 15 Nov (CKM, JDM); 400, Arcola (Douglas Co), 5 Dec (RC).

Name these birds! They're Northern Shovelers. Photo taken at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Cook County on 8 November 1998 by Eric Walters.

Ross's Goose

EA: 7 Nov (ad.), Durand (BG); 7-12 Nov, Pecatonica (DW). MC: 10, Baldwin L (St. Clair Co), 29 Nov (DK); 4, LSNucPlnt, 15 Nov (CKM, JDM). LD: 5 Dec, Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC). Others: 19-29 Nov, Wauk (DJ, AFS); 22 Nov, Spfld (DB); 22-28 Nov (ad. & imm.), Durand-Pecatonica (BG, DW); 26 & 29 Nov, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM); 27 Nov, Heyworth (McLean Co) (MR).

Canada Goose

MC: 16,000, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co), 24 Nov - 1 Dec (DNR); 3,362, LChau, 30 Oct (RBj, SBj). **Small race(s)**: EA: 8 Sep, JP (PC); 18 Oct, Spfld (DB). MC: 300, Normal (McLean Co), 27 Nov (MR, JE).

Immature Ross's Goose at Waukegan, Lake County. 19-29 November 1998. Photo by David B. Johnson.

Mute Swan

MC: 25, Wolf L (LCal), 25 Oct (WM); 17, Spring L CA (Tazewell Co), 27 Aug (VK).

Tundra Swan

EA: 3 Nov (23), Wauk (DJ); 12 Nov (14), LChau (RBj, SBj). MC: 60, IBSP, 12 Nov (DJ, AFS); 38, LChau, 21 Nov (RC, MD, KR). LD: 29 Nov (4), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM).

Wood Duck

MC: 174, LChau, 10 Sep (RBj, SBj); 113, Palos, 6 Sep (CT); 55, Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co), 4 Aug (KM). LD: 12 Nov (pr.), JP (PC).

Gadwall

EA: 21 Sep (male), Spfld (DB); 12 Oct (10), O'Fallon (KM). MC: 6,000, Carl.L, 13 Nov (MH); 1,240, LChau, 30 Oct (RBj, SBj).

American Wigeon

EA: 18 Aug (female), LCal (JE). MC: 3,745, LChau, 30 Oct (RBj, SBj).

American Black Duck

EA: 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: 2,600, Duck Creek (Fulton Co), 23 Nov (MH); 800, LSNucPlnt, 29 Nov (CKM, JDM); 735, LChau, 19 Nov (RBj, SBj).

Mallard

MC: 96,300, LChau, 19 Nov (RBj, SBj); 30,000, LSNucPlnt, 15 Nov (CKM, JDM); 11,600, Carl.L, 11 Nov (KM).

Blue-winged Teal

EA: 17 Jul (4), HL (KM); 10 Aug, Glacial Park (McHenry Co) (SD). MC: 5,281, LChau, 24 Sep (RBj, SBj). LD: 28 Nov (2 males), Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB).

CINNAMON TEAL

29 Aug (molting male), Carl.L (*DK).

Northern Shoveler

EA: **26 Jul** (20), Cass Co (KM); 26 Aug

(3), Spfld (DB). MC: 5,812, LChau, 12 Nov (RBj, SBj); 850, Carl.L, 11 Nov (KM). To end of period.

Northern Pintail
EA: 29 Aug (2), Carl.L (DK). MC: 13,690, LChau, 30 Oct (RBj, SBj); 2,500, Carl.L, 7 Nov (KM).

Green-winged Teal
EA: 14 Aug, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM); 14 Aug, Monroe Co (DK). MC: 11,763, LChau, 12 Nov (RBj, SBj).

Canvasback
MC: 10,000, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 23 Nov (MH). Other: **31 Aug - 19 Sep** (female), Crabtree Nature Center (Cook Co) (*CF).

Redhead
EA: 16 Sep (female), Spfld (DB); 13 Oct (6), Carl.L (KM). MC: 500, Jack L (Mason Co), 23 Nov (MH). Scarce this fall.

Ring-necked Duck
EA: **4 Aug** (migrant?), Rock Cut SP (DW). MC: 3,950, Rend L, 13 Nov (MH).

Greater Scaup
MC: 2,000, IBSP, 14 Nov (KM)'see also 'Scaup, sp"?

Lesser Scaup
EA: 14 Oct (male), Spfld (DB). MC: 4,616, LChau, 12 Nov (RBj, SBj); 4,500, Carl.L, 11 Nov (KM). Other: 8 Aug (molting male), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM).

Scaup, sp?
MC: 4,000, IBSP, 14 Nov (JE); 3,550, Rend L, 13 Nov (MH).

Harlequin Duck
8-13 Oct, Wauk (DJ, m.ob.).

Surf Scoter
EA: 9-13 Oct (4), O'Fallon (DK, KM); 21-22 Oct (imm.), Spfld (DB, MD); 22 Oct (female), Clin.L (RC). LD: 22 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 19 Nov (4), Charleston (Coles Co) (RBr). Others: 30 Oct, Spfld (DB); 5 Nov, Decatur (MD).

White-winged Scoter
EA: 31 Oct, Clin.L (RC). MC: 14, Evanston, 1 Nov (JE). LD: 21 Nov (female), IBSP (AFS). Others (downstate): 11 Nov (3 ad. males), Rend L (FB); 11 Nov, Decatur (MD).

Black Scoter
EA: 26 Oct (3), Wilmette (JL); 31 Oct (2 imm.), Rend L (FB). MC: 9, Wilmette, 29 Oct (JE); 7, Spfld, 29 Oct (DB); 5, Charleston (Coles Co), 19 Nov (RBr). LD: 5 Dec, Shabbona L (DeKalb Co) (DS); 28 Nov, Spfld (DB). Others (south): 30 Oct - 1 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 31 Oct (2 imm.), Rend L (FB); 7 Nov (3), Carl.L (KM).

Dark-winged scoter, sp?
MC: 64, Evanston, 1 Nov (JE).

Oldsquaw
EA: 26 Oct, Wauk (DJ et al.). MC: 13, Wilmette to Glencoe (Cook Co), 15 Nov (GW). LD: 26 Nov, Wilmette (JL); 26 Nov, Rend L (FB). Others (downstate): 15-17 Nov, Carl.L (DK, VK); 28 Nov (female), Spfld (DB).

Bufflehead
EA: 24 Oct (male), Evanston (JE, MR); 7 Nov, Clin.L (RC). MC: 120, Spfld, 20 Nov (DB); 24, JP, 15 Nov (PC).

Common Goldeneye
EA: 30 Oct (6), Spfld & Buckhart (Sangamon Co) (DB); 14 Nov, Carl.L (DK). MC: 3,000, Evanston to Winnetka (Cook Co), 14 Nov (RC).

Hooded Merganser
EA: 8 Sep (10), Evanston (JE). MC: 367, LSNucPlnt, 15 Nov (CKM, JDM); 120, Clin.L, 13 Nov (RC).

Common Merganser
EA: 4 Nov (female), Buckhart (Sangamon Co) (DB); 7 Nov (female), JP (PC); 14 Nov (pr.), Clin.L (MR).

Red-breasted Merganser
EA: 14 Oct, Wauk (DJ et al.); 28 Oct (6), Spfld (DB). MC: 1,500, Evanston to Winnetka (Cook Co), 14 Nov (RC).

Ruddy Duck
EA: 2 Aug (female), HL (WR); 29 Aug (2 males), McGinnis Slough (Palos) (DFS); 24 Sep, Spfld (DB). MC: **2,300**, LChau, 22 Oct (RBj, SBj).

Osprey
EA: 5 Aug, Spfld (DB); 9 Aug, Momence (DFS). MC: 7, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 21 Sep (RB). LD: 23 Nov, Spfld (DB); 18 Nov, Goose L Prairie SP (Grundy Co) (DFS).

Mississippi Kite
LD: 30 Aug (ad.), Miller City (Alexander Co) (FB). Other: summer through 16 Aug, **Rock Cut SP** (*DW-ph, m.ob.).

Bald Eagle
EA: 1 Aug (imm. - summered?), Rend L (LS); 25 Aug (imm.), Baldwin L (St. Claire Co) (KM); 25 Sep (imm.), Spfld (DB); 18 Oct (ad.), Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB). MC: 13 (6 ad., 7 imm.), LChau, 19 Nov (RBj, SBj); 12, Gladstone (Henderson Co) (AR).

Northern Harrier
EA: 25 Jul (female), Spfld (DB); 10 Aug, Glacial Park (SD); 25 Aug, Monroe Co (KM). MC: 34, LincP, 12 Nov (JL); 11, Pr.Rdg, 28 Nov (JW).

Sharp-shinned Hawk
EA: 27 Jul (resident?), Monroe Co (KM); 8 Aug (imm.), Evanston (JE). MC: 25, IBSP, 18 Oct (DJ). Into winter.

Cooper's Hawk
EA: 24 Aug, JP (PC). MC: 6, IBSP, 12 Sep (JM); 5, Spfld, 27 Sep (DB); 4, Carl.L, 19 Sep (KM).

Northern Goshawk
EA: 31 Oct, Clin.L (RC et al.).

Red-shouldered Hawk
EA: 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 21 Sep, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB). MC: 3, IBSP, 15 Nov (AFS).

Broad-winged Hawk
EA: 12 Aug (6), Rock Cut SP (DW). MC: 15, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 21 Sep (RB). LD: 4 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 2 Oct (4), Spfld (DB). Scarce this fall.

Swainson's Hawk
LD: 7 Sep, Hampshire (Kane Co) (RAM).

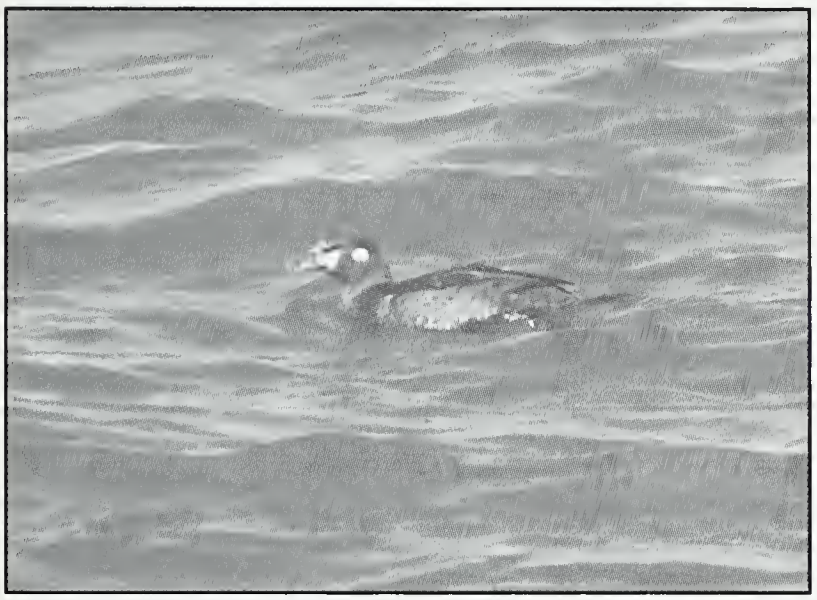
Red-tailed Hawk
MC: 26, Spfld, 1 Nov (DB); 20, Monroe Co, 20 Nov (KM). **Krider's Red-tailed Hawk**: 25 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 22 Nov, Spfld (DB); 27 Nov, Carl.L (DK). **Melanistic**: 15 Nov, Clin.L (RC).

Rough-legged Hawk
EA: 12 Oct, Berry (Sangamon Co) (DB).

Golden Eagle
EA: 12 Nov (ad.), Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB). Others: 15-17 Nov (ad.), MTwain (HW); 16 Nov - end of period (imm.), Durand-Pecatonica (BG, DW, m.ob.).

American Kestrel
MC: 20, Sangamon Co, 1 Nov (DB); 15, Monroe Co, 18 Nov (KM); 13, MidewinPr, 11 Sep (DFS); 7, Vermilion Co, 20 Sep (JOS).

Merlin
EA: 14 Aug, Highland Park (Lake Co) (DD). MC: 13, IBSP, 18 Oct (DJ). LD: 23 Nov, Spfld (DB); 10 Nov, Skokie (Cook Co) (JE). Others: 44 additional reports (25 from north, 15 from central, 4 from south).



Juvenile Harlequin Duck, Waukegan, Lake County. 8-13 October 1998. Photo by David B. Johnson.

Peregrine Falcon
EA: 23 Jul, Spfld (DB); 1 Aug (imm. *anatum*), Fishhk (MD); 3 Aug, Chi (DFS). LD: 28 Nov (ad.), LCal (WM). Others: 63 additional reports (43 from north, 13 from central, 7 from south). Observers are encouraged to note apparent subspecies where possible. The expected migratory race in IL is *tundrius*, while reintroduced birds are of the darker subspecies *anatum*.

Ring-necked Pheasant
MC: 18, Steward Habitat Area (Lee Co) (DS).

Greater Prairie Chicken
MC: 70, Pr.Rdg, 28 Nov (JW).

Wild Turkey
MC: 60, Monroe Co, 18 Nov (KM); 13, Ottawa (La Salle Co), 1 Oct (JDM, CKM).

Northern Bobwhite
MC: 25, Sangamon Co, 18 Oct (DB).

Yellow Rail
EA: 17 Sep, Chi (*KW, SF-ph, *m.ob.). See seasonal highlights with photo. LD: 10 Oct, Cypress Creek NWR (Pulaski Co) (*FB).

BLACK RAIL
9 Oct, Pr.Rdg (*DJO).

King Rail
LD: 3-4 Oct (ad. & imm.), Mermet L CA (*FB). Others: 14 Aug (imm.) and 28 Aug (ad.), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM).

Virginia Rail
EA: 15 Aug, Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co) (SD, KM). LD: 4 Oct, Mermet L CA (*FB); 17 Sep (2), Spfld (DB).

Sora
EA: 11 Aug, Spfld (DB); 16 Aug (imm.), LCal (JM). MC: **100+**, Carl.L, 26 Sep (IOS)—**remarkable record high count**; 11, Pecatonica, 4 Oct (DW). LD: 18 Oct, Pecatonica (BG).

PURPLE GALLINULE
LD: 9-14 Aug (ad. & yg.—2nd brood from summer), Mermet L CA (*FB, m.ob.). About the 38th IL record.

Common Moorhen
MC: 7, LCal, 17 Aug (DFS). LD: 12 Oct, HL (DK); 7 Sep (3), Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB); 5 Sep (2 juv.), Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC).

American Coot
MC: 15,000, Spring L (Mason Co), 13 Oct (MH); 11,222, LChau, 8 Oct (RBj, SBj); 4,300, nw. Will Co, 18 Nov (DFS).

Sandhill Crane
MC: **5,063** on 23 Nov and **4,246** on 12 Nov, Villa Park (Du Page Co) (RB); 1,165, LCal, 23 Nov (DFS). LD: 25 Dec (2), JP (*PC). Others (downstate): 13 Nov (11), Clin.L (RC); 14 Nov, Westville (Clark Co) (MD); 27 Nov, HL (KM). **Record high counts**; cf. previous high of 3,500 on 20 Mar 1988.

WHOOPING CRANE
11 Nov, IBSP (*RH-ph, *RE)—**1st confirmed IL record since 1958**. See separate article and photo.

Black-bellied Plover
EA: 2 Aug, LCal (JL); 7 Aug (ad.), Sangamon Co (DB). MC: 63, LChau, 15 Oct (RBj, SBj); 14, La Salle Co, 2 Oct (CKM, JDM); 14, Rend L, 31 Aug (FB). LD: 27 Nov (2), Carl.L (DK); 21 Nov, LChau (RC et al.); 12 Nov, IBSP (DJ, AFS).

Lesser Golden Plover
EA: 1 Aug, Rock Cut SP (DW). MC: 205, LChau, 1 Oct (RBj, SBj); 85, LSNucPlnt, 2 Oct (CKM, JDM). LD: 23 Oct (25), Homer (Champaign Co) (JOS).

Semipalmated Plover
EA: 4 Jul, Wadsworth (Lake Co) (AFS); 15 Jul, Spfld (DB); 27 Jul, Monroe Co (KM). MC: 13, LCal (2 locations), 30 Aug (DJ et al.); 11, LChau, 13 Oct (RBj, SBj); 11, Evanston, 21 Aug (JE); 5, Carl.L, 19 Sep (KM). LD: 17 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 13 Oct, Newton L (Jasper Co) (JW, EK); 6 Oct, JP (PC).

Piping Plover
EA: 13 Aug, IBSP (SH). MC: 2, Evanston, 21 Aug (JE). LD: 6-9 Sep (2), Carl.L (DK, KM). Others: 15 Aug, Wauk (SH, AFS); 5 Sep, Fishhk (RC).

Killdeer
MC: **2,513**, LChau, 3 Sep (RBj, SBj); **1000+**, Carl.L, 12 Sep (MD); 400, Momence (Kankakee Co), 14 Aug (CKM, JDM). To end of period. **Albino**: 13-14 Aug, Massac Co (FB). **Record high counts**; cf. previous high count of 1000 on 22 Oct 1994.

Black-necked Stilt
LD: 23 Aug (2 ad.), Union Co (FB). Others: 21 Aug (2 ad. & 1 imm.), Jackson Co (KM).

American Avocet
EA: 30 Jun, Spfld (DB); 22 Jul (3), GrantP (DFS); 16 Aug, LChau (RC). MC: 5, LChau, **12 & 19 Nov** (RBj, SBj)—**ties previous IL record late dates**, from 1994 and 1995; 4, Evanston, 18 Oct (IB, m.ob.); 4, St. Clair Co, 24 Oct (MD).

Greater Yellowlegs
EA: 28 Jun, Havana (Mason Co) (RC); 5 Jul, Des Plaines R Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co) (SH); 20 Jul, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). MC: 86, LChau, 17 Sep (RBj, SBj); 22, Carl.L, 18 Oct (KM). LD: **5 Dec** (2), Fishhk (RC); 14 Nov, Shabbona L (DeKalb Co) (DS).

Lesser Yellowlegs
EA: 21 Jun, LincP (JL); 27 Jun (2), Gifford (Champaign Co) (RC); 20 Jul, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). MC: 3,226, LChau, 27 Aug (RBj, SBj); 199, LCal, 2 Aug (JL). LD: 1 Nov, IBSP (AFS). **Albino**: 7 Sep, LChau (MD, m.ob.).

Solitary Sandpiper
EA: 27 Jun (2), Urbana (RC); 12 Jul (8), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM); 19 Jul, East St. Louis (St. Clair Co) (KM). MC: 25, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 30 Jul (RB). LD: 7 Oct, JP (PC); 4 Oct, L Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR).

Willet
EA: 19 Jul (2), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM); 19 Jul, Wauk (DFS); 9 Aug, Wabash Co (LH). MC: 3 (ad.), Union Co, 23 Aug (FB); 3, MTwain, 22 Aug (HW). LD: 7 Sep (2), LChau (RS, MD).

Purple Sandpiper. Waukegan Port District, Lake County. 24 October 1998. Photo by James Neal.

Spotted Sandpiper
MC: 30, LCal, 12 Jul (DJ et al.). LD: **20 Nov**, Spfld (DB).

Upland Sandpiper
EA: 25 Jul (3), Momence (DJ); 28 Jul, Spfld (DB). MC: 6, Cherry Valley (Boone Co), 26 Jul (DW). LD: 5 Sep, MTwain (HW).

Whimbrel
EA: 8 Aug, LincP (JL). MC: 5, Evanston, 21 Aug (JE). LD: 12-13 Sep, **Carl.L** (*MD, *DB, m.ob.); 23 Aug, LCal (CA, WM, m.ob.). 12 Sep, Cook Co (JE, EW).

Hudsonian Godwit
EA: 13 Oct, Carl.L (KM). LD: 17 Oct (3), Carl.L (DK); 15-17 Oct, Fermi (RF, KF, m.ob.).

Marbled Godwit
EA: 26-27 Jul, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). LD: 24-27 Sep, LChau (MR, RBj, SBj, m.ob.). Others: 13-16 Aug (2), LChau (MD, RC, m.ob.); 16 Aug, O'Hare Airport (Cook Co) (DD); 24 Aug, MTwain (*LHa); 17 Sep, LChau (RBj, SBj).

Ruddy Turnstone
EA: 8 Aug, St. Clair Co (IOS); 16 Aug, LCal (JM). MC: 10, Evanston, 21 Aug (JE). LD: 26 Sep - 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, IOS).

Red Knot
EA: 17 Aug, LCal (DFS). MC: 4, IBSP & Wauk, 22 Aug (SH, AFS). LD: 24 Sep, LChau (RBj, SBj).

Sanderling
EA: 11 Jul (4), Wauk (JM); 23 Jul, Spfld (DB); 16 Aug, HL (FH). MC: 69, IBSP & Wauk, 22 Aug (AFS); 30, Carl.L, 5-12 Sep (DK). LD: 16 Nov, JP (PC, KC); 12 Nov, Wauk (DJ, AFS).

Semipalmated Sandpiper
EA: **28 Jun**, LCal (JE); 15 Jul, Spfld (DB); 20 Jul, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). MC: **4,994**, LChau, 13 Aug (RBj, SBj)—**record IL high count** (the previous high count of 3000 is from the same site, 2 Aug 1997); 100 (ad.), LCal, 3 Aug (WM). LD: 4 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 14 Sep, Spfld (DB); 12 Sep (11), LCal (JL).

Western Sandpiper
EA: 15 Aug (2 ad.), Karnak (Pulaski Co) (FB). MC: 7, Rend L, 31 Aug (FB). LD: **16 Nov**, Rend L (FB); 7 Sep (imm.), JP (PC, KC).

Least Sandpiper
EA: 26 Jun, Palatine (Cook Co) (CF); 30 Jun, Spfld (DB); 19 Jul, HL (KM). MC: 1,060, LChau, 3 Sep (RBj, SBj); 200+, Carl.L, 26 Sep (DK, IOS); 191, LCal, 25 Jul (JL). LD: 5 Dec (6), Fishhk (RC); 15 Nov Wauk (AFS).

White-rumped Sandpiper
EA: 16 Aug, LCal (CA, WM, m.ob.). LD: 31 Aug, Rend L (FB); 30 Aug, LChau (MR); 30 Aug, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM).

Baird's Sandpiper
EA: 19 Jul, LCal (JM); 25 Jul, Fulton Co (KM). MC: 11 (imm.), LCal, 23 Aug (WM). LD: 21 Nov, LChau (KR et al.); 15-16 Nov, JP (PC, KC).

Pectoral Sandpiper
EA: 21 Jun, Savoy (Champaign Co) (RC); 1 Jul, Sangamon Co (DB); 12 Jul (4), LCal (DJ et al.); 20 Jul, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). MC: 4,760, LChau, 27 Aug (RBj, SBj); 500, Stump L, 31 Jul (HW); 110, LCal, 16 Aug (AFS). LD: 21 Nov (3), L Chau (KR et al.); 14 Nov (2), IBSP (JE); 14 Nov, JP (PC, KC).

PURPLE SANDPIPER
EA: 24 Oct, Wauk (RJN-ph). Other: 28 Nov, Wauk.

Dunlin
EA: 17 Aug, LCal (DFS); 8 Oct (3), LChau (RC). MC: 70, Carl.L, 25 Oct (DK); 17, Newton L (Jasper Co), 13 Oct (JW, EK). LD: 16 Nov (8), Rend L (FB).

Stilt Sandpiper
EA: 11 Jul (2), LCal (JL); 16 Jul, Spfld (DB); 27 Jul, Monroe Co (KM); 27 Jul (3), Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). MC: 37, LCal, 17 Sep (DFS); 37, LChau, 15 Oct (RBj, SBj); 37, Carl.L, 17 Oct (DK). LD (north): 27 Sep, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper
EA: 25-26 Jul, Momence (DJ, AFS); 15 Aug (3), LChau (MD); 21 Aug, Jackson Co (KM). MC: 30+, LChau, 23 Aug (RC, m.ob.); 22, Momence, 29 Aug (DFS); 10, Rend L, 31 Aug (FB). LD: 27 Sep (imm.), LCal (AFS); 26-27 Sep, Carl.L (DK, IOS).

Short-billed Dowitcher
EA: 1 Jul (3), LCal (JL); 20 Jul, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK). MC: 65, LChau, 27 Aug (RBj, SBj); 65, LCal, 12 Jul (DJ et al.). LD: 12 Sep (2), LCal (JL).

Long-billed Dowitcher
EA: 29 Aug (6), LCal (JL); 9 Sep (8), Carl.L (KM). MC: 87, LChau, 22 Oct (RBj, SBj); 30, Carl.L, 18 Oct (KM). LD: **5 Dec** (11), Fishhk (RC); 12 Nov, IBSP (AFS).

Common Snipe
EA: 25 Jul, Marissa (St. Clair Co) (*TD). MC: 19, LChau, 6 Nov (RBj, SBj); 18, LShel, 19 Sep (RC); 15, O'Hare Airport (Cook Co), 15 Oct (DD). Into December.

American Woodcock
MC: 4, Carl.L, 26 Sep (DK). LD: 19 Nov (2), Sang.L (DB).

Wilson's Phalarope
EA: 26 Jul, LCal (AFS); 13 Aug, LChau (RBj, SBj). MC: 6, LCal, 17 Aug (DFS). LD: 13 Sep, LCal (AFS); 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM).

Red-necked Phalarope
EA: 13 Aug, L Chau (RBj, SBj); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: 16, LChau, 7 Sep (MD et al.). LD: 18 Oct, Carl.L (KM, DK).

Red Phalarope
EA: 14 Sep, Rend L (*FB).

Jaeger, sp?
EA: 30 Aug (ad. light morph), Wilmette (JE). Other (reported as Parasitic Jaeger): 26 Sep, Carl.L—no details.

Laughing Gull
EA: 22 Jul, Spfld (DB); 22 Aug (1st yr.), Rend L (FB). LD: 31 Oct (ad.), Clin.L (RC); 31 Oct (ad.), Spfld (DB). Others: 14 Sep (1st yr.), Rend L (FB); 22 Oct, Spfld (DB).

Urban Whimbrel? —This species visited Chicago, Cook County, in September 1998. One of its favorite perches was a barbecue grill. Photo taken 12 September 1998 by Josh Engel.

Franklin's Gull
EA: 17 Jul, HL (KM); 20 Jul, Spfld (DB); 9 Aug (1st yr.), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM). MC: **1,000+** (perhaps double that), Beecher (Will Co), 16 Nov (MLH); 300, Clin.L, 14 Nov (MR et al.); 200+, Garden Prairie (Boone Co), 21 Nov (RCF); 83, Shabbona L (DeKalb Co), 16 Nov (DS); 35, HL, 11 Oct (FH). LD: 2 Dec, GrantP (DFS). **Record numbers at numerous sites**; previous high counts have not exceeded 500 birds.

Little Gull
EA: 7 Nov (ad.), Evanston (JE et al.). LD: 6 Dec (ad.), Clin.L (RC). Other: 24 Nov (imm.), Clin.L (MR).

Bonaparte's Gull
EA: 19 Jul (6), LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM). MC: 1,400, Carl.L, 11 Nov (KM); 200, Spfld, 21 & 24 Nov (DB).

MEW GULL
13 Nov (1st yr.), GrantP (*DFS). Most of the 24+ reports of this species have been reviewed by IORC; this is the 17th accepted record.

Ring-billed Gull
EA: 17 Jul (185), HL (KM). MC: 4,510, LChau, 27 Aug (RBj, SBj); 3,000, Spfld, 21 & 24 Nov (DB); 2,350, Palos, 11 Nov (CT); 2,100, Carl.L, 26 Oct (KM). **Leucistic individual**: 14 Nov - end of period, LincP (JL, m.ob.).

Herring Gull
EA (south): 7 Sep (3rd winter), Clin.L (MR); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: 500, IBSP & Zion (Lake Co), 12 Nov (DJ et al.).

Thayer's Gull
EA: 1 Nov, HL (FH-ph). MC: 3 (ad.), Evanston, 26 Nov (RH, JE, AFS). Others: 12 Nov (1st winter), LincP (GW); 28 Nov (ad.), LCal (WM).

Iceland Gull
EA: 14 Nov (2nd winter), LincP (JL et al.).

Lesser Black-backed Gull
EA: 3-4 Oct (1st winter), Carl.L (WR, DK); 12 Oct (ad.), Decatur (MD). Others: 30 Oct (1st winter), Carl.L (DK); 6-11 Nov (ad. & 1st yr), HL (FH-ph); 7 Nov - end of period, Clin.L (MD, RC); 8 Nov, Evanston (MR et al.); 8 Nov, Highland Park (Lake Co) (DJ); 13 Nov (ad.), GrantP (DFS); 15 Nov (ad.), LincP (GW); 15-28 Nov (ad.), Carl.L (DK, VK); 26 Nov (ad.), Rend L (FB); 28 Nov (ad.), IBSP (AFS).

Glaucous Gull
EA: 8 Nov (ad.), Wauk (MR et al.).

Great Black-backed Gull
EA: 9 Aug - end of period (ad.), Wauk & IBSP (AFS, SH, m.ob.); 11 Nov (1st winter), HL (KM).

Sabine's Gull
EA: 6-7 Sep, Clin.L (MF, *RC). MC: 5, Carl.L, 19-20 Sep (KM, DK, MD). Other: 15 Sep, Decatur (MD).

Black-legged Kittiwake
EA: 11 Nov (2 imm.), Evanston (JE). Other: 22 Nov (imm.), Evanston & Winnetka (Cook Co) (MR et al.).

Caspian Tern
EA: 20 Jun, Spfld (DB); 5 Jul, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM); 19 Jul, HL (FH). MC: 55, La Salle Co, 29 Aug (CKM, JDM); 23, Spfld, 20 Aug (DB); 8, Carl.L, 11 Aug (DK); 8, Rend L, 22 Aug (FB). LD: 20 Oct, Charleston (Coles Co) (RBr et al.); 10 Oct (3 ad., 1 imm.), Evanston (JE).

Common Tern
EA: 30 Jun, Spfld (DB); 23 Jul, JP (BH, PC). MC: 23, LincP, 18 Oct (JL). LD: 19 Oct (17), LincP (JL).

Forster's Tern
EA: 28 Jun (1st summer), Evanston (JE); 12 Jul, Spfld (DB). MC: 30, Evanston, 21 Aug (JE); 15, Carl.L, 23-27 Sep (DK). LD: 12 Nov (4+), JP (PC, KC).

Least Tern
MC: 7, Wabash Co, 9 Aug (LH).

Black Tern
EA: 30 Jun, Spfld (DB); 19 Jul, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM); 8 Aug, Stump L (Jersey Co) (IOS); 8 Aug (4), Monroe Co (DK). MC: 40, Spfld, 24 Aug (MD); 40, LChau, 30 Aug (MR). LD: 19 Sep, Carl.L (KM).

BLACK SKIMMER
4 Sep, Decatur (MD-ph, *VK, *DB, DO-ph, m.ob.)—**1st IL record**. See separate story and photos.

Rock Dove
MC: 265, LCal, 2 Oct (DFS).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE/*Streptopelia*, sp?

2 Oct, Millstadt (St. Clair Co) (DK); 3 Oct, Clin.L (RC). Nest: 2 chicks, 6-12 Sep, fledged 18 Sep, LincP (JL). The status of this genus in IL remains very unclear, and the IORC solicits documentations for birds identified as Eurasian Collared-Doves. That species is considered a naturally occurring vagrant (from populations introduced outside IL), while the very similar Ringed Turtle-Dove is currently considered an unestablished avicultural escape. Observers should also be wary of potential hybrids within this genus.

Mourning Dove

MC: 300+, Momence, 8 Aug (WS); 300, Carl.L, 7 Nov (KM). **Partial albino**: 4 Aug, Spfld (DB).

Monk Parakeet

MC: 34, JP, 16 Aug. Others: 14 Nov (7 nests), Burnham (Cook Co) (WM). Note: This species is now included in the main body of Field Notes, and is no longer considered an exotic in Illinois. It is listed as a regular species in the Illinois State Checklist, published by IOS in 1999. See *Meadowlark* Vol 8 No.1 for details on this species? status in Illinois.

Black-billed Cuckoo

EA: 31 Jul, Spfld (DB); 3 Aug (3), Hazlet SP (DK); 15 Aug, I&M Canal (Grundy Co) (DS). LD: 21 Sep, Spfld (DB); 21 Sep, Evanston (JE); .

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

EA: 24 Aug, JP (PC). MC: 12, Spfld, 2 Aug (DB); 6, Orient (Franklin Co), 29 Aug (LS). LD: 13 Oct, Sangamon Co (DB); 7 Oct, I&M Canal (Grundy Co) (DFS).

BARN OWL

MC: 4 (2 ad., 2 yg.), Cypress Creek NWR (Pulaski Co), 19 Oct & 1 Nov—no details.

Eastern Screech-Owl

MC: 16, Franklin Co., 28 Oct & 29 Nov (LS).

Great Horned Owl

MC: 14, Moraine View SP (McLean Co), 30 Sep (DFS).

Barred Owl

MC: 9, sw. Franklin & ne. Jackson Cos, 27 Nov (LS).

Long-eared Owl

EA: 22 Nov, Fermi (AFS).

Short-eared Owl

EA: 27 Sep, LincP (JL); 30 Oct, Carl.L (DK). MC: 4, Pr.Rdg, 28 Nov (JW); 3, IBSP, 12 Nov (DJ et al.).

Northern Saw-whet Owl

EA: 7 Nov, Middle Fork FWA (Vermilion Co) (SB, PW).

Common Nighthawk

EA: 14 Aug (11), JP (PC); 19 Aug (45), O'Fallon (KM). MC: "thousands," Bloomington, 17 Sep (MR); 1,000, Urbana, 21 Sep (RC); 639, Evanston, 20 Aug (JE); 250, Granite City (Madison Co), 1 Sep (FH). LD: **2 Nov** (details?), Colfax (McLean Co) (MR); 29 Oct (3), Granite City (Madison Co) (FH).

Whip-poor-will

LD: 5 Oct, Ziegler (Franklin Co) (LS); 4 Oct (male), Spfld (DB).

Chimney Swift

MC: 1,190, JP, 12 Sep (PC); 1,000+, Urbana, 21 Sep (RC); 500, La Salle Co, 7 Sep (CKM, JDM); 225, HL, 1 Sep (KM). LD: 18 Oct (6), Spfld (DB); 18 Oct, Breese (Clinton Co) (DK); 18 Oct (3), Carl.L (KM); 18 Oct (11), Lebanon (St. Clair Co) (KM); 18 Oct (6), O'Fallon (KM). Other: 16 Nov (dead in parking lot with newly exposed viscera'specimen not collected), Evanston (JE).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

EA: 28 Jul, Orland Park (Cook Co) (WS)—an early date if a true migrant. MC: **40+**, West Frankfort (Franklin Co), 16 Sep (LS); 14, LCal, 26 Sep (DFS); 12, LChau, 7 Sep (RC). LD: 18 Oct (2), West Frankfort (Franklin Co) (LS); 18 Oct, Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co) (KM); 8 Oct, Spfld (DB).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD

10 Nov - end of period (ad. male), Spfld (DO-ph, m.ob.); 23 Nov (female—measured), Spfld (DO-ph, DB). Fifth and sixth IL records (but three additional records of unidentified *Selasphorus* hummingbirds). See photos.

Belted Kingfisher

MC: 9, Carl.L, 11 Aug (DK); 9, Spfld, 18 Sep (DB).

Red-headed Woodpecker

EA: 6 Aug, GrantP (DFS). MC: 46, Spfld, 12 Sep (DB); 10, Monroe Co, 4 Aug (KM); 8, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), 30 Nov (JOS).

Red-bellied Woodpecker

MC: 18, Spfld, 25 Aug (DB); 18, Palos, 4 Sep (DFS).

Rufous Hummingbird at Springfield, Sangamon County, 23 November 1998. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
EA: 10 Sep, Rend L (LS); 10 Sep, GrantP (DFS). MC: 22, GrantP, 23 Sep (DFS); 11, Spfld, 3 Oct (DB). LD: 21 Nov (2), Ottawa (La Salle Co) (CKM, JDM).

Downy Woodpecker
MC: 21, Palos, 4 Sep (DFS); 16, Sangamon Co, 22 Nov (DB).

Hairy Woodpecker
MC: 6, Spfld, 26 Nov (DB); 5, I&M Canal (Grundy Co), 24 Oct (DFS). Other: 20 Oct (female), JP (PC)—only third local record in 20 years.

Northern Flicker
EA: 8 Sep (15), JP (PC). MC: 62, GrantP, 21 Sep (DFS); 40+, Urbana, 25 Sep (RC).

Pileated Woodpecker
MC: 4, Sangamon Co, 17 & 22 Aug (DB).

Olive-sided Flycatcher
EA: 25 Jul, Spfld (DB); 1 Aug, Rock Cut SP (DW); 13 Aug, Mermet L CA (FB). LD: 30 Sep, Walnut Point SP (Douglas Co) (DFS); 22 Sep, JP (PC).

Eastern Wood-Pewee
EA: 9 Aug, JP (PC). MC: **31**, Palos, 4 Sep (DFS)—**record fall high count for IL**; 16, Sangamon Co, 25 Aug (DB). LD: 13 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 11 Oct, Spfld (DB); 5 Oct, Lone Grove FP (Kane Co) (DS).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
EA: 21 Jul, Spfld (DB). MC: 8, GrantP, 25 Aug (DFS). LD: 28 Sep, LincP (JL).

Acadian Flycatcher
LD: 28 Sep, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co) (FB); 13 Sep, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (CKM, JDM); 12 Sep, LincP (IOS).

Alder Flycatcher
EA: 1 Aug, Rock Cut SP (DW); 20 Aug, Sang.L (DB); 27 Aug, Mermet L CA (FB). LD: 17 Sep, Sangamon Co (DB); 12 Sep, Bemis Woods (Cook Co) (DFS).

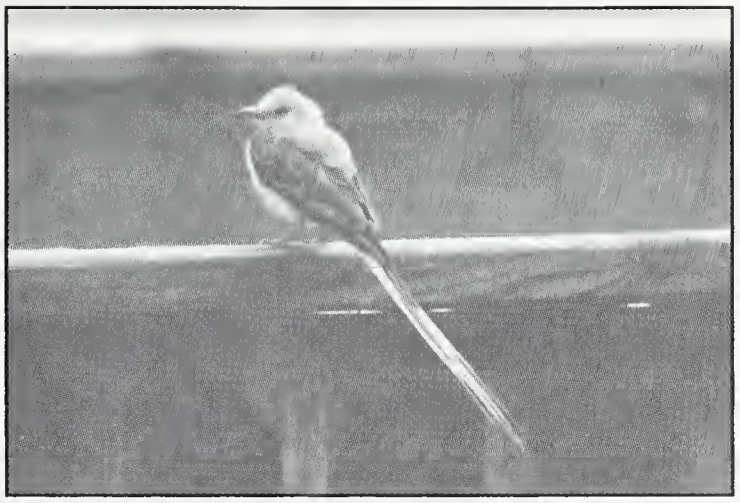
Willow Flycatcher
EA: 20 Aug, JP (PC). LD: 20 Sep, Spfld (DB); 10 Sep, CBG (DJ et al.).

"Traill's" Flycatcher
LD: 23 Sep, GrantP (DFS).

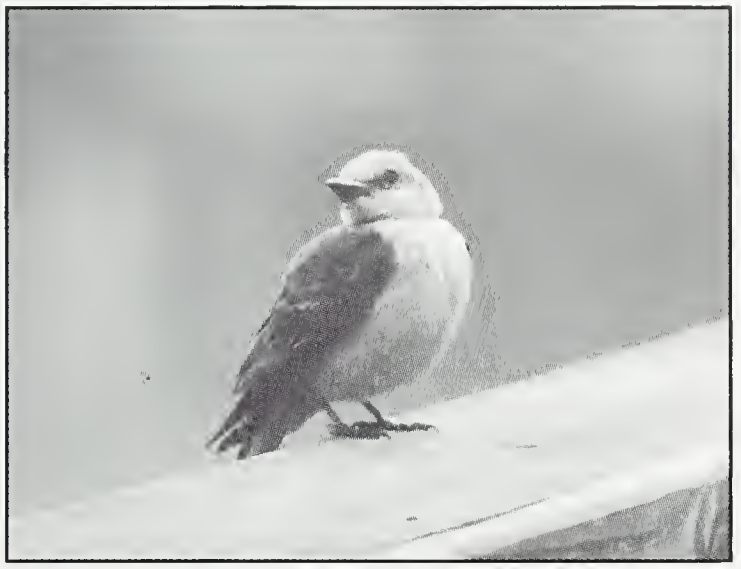
Least Flycatcher
EA: 28 Jul, Spfld (DB). MC: 10, Urbana, 29 Aug (RC). LD: 28 Sep, Spfld (DB); 25 Sep, GrantP (DFS).

Eastern Phoebe
EA: 25 Aug, GrantP (DFS). MC: 8, MidewinPr, 7 Oct (DFS); 7, Spfld, 3 & 12 Oct (DB). LD: 21 Nov, Spfld (DB); 14 Nov, Rend L (LS).

SAY'S PHOEBE
28-29 Nov, Fermi (*VM, PM-ph, *RF, m.ob.). Eighth IL record, and first since 1985. See seasonal highlights and Fifth Annual IORC Report with photo.



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Batavia, Illinois, DuPage County, 6 August 1998. Photos by Bob Audrini.



VERMILION FLYCATCHER
7-8 Oct, McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (*HC, *DMB, *JS, m.ob.). Seventh IL record, and third for fall; first Du Page Co record. See seasonal highlights.

Great Crested Flycatcher
EA: 12 Aug, JP (PC). MC: 5, Spfld, 1 Aug (DB); 4, I&M Canal (Grundy Co), 15 Aug (DS); 3, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 25 Sep, GrantP (DFS).

Western Kingbird
LD: 14 Aug, Kidd L (Monroe Co) (DK); Others: 3 Aug, Spfld (*DB, m.ob.); 8 Aug, Granite City (Madison Co) (IOS).

Eastern Kingbird
MC: 26, Sangamon Co, 5 Aug (DB); 22, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM); 10, JP, 13 Aug (PC); 6, MidewinPr, 11 Sep (DFS). LD: 19 Sep, Spfld (DB); 19 Sep (8), Carl.L (KM); 15 Sep, CBG (DJ).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER
3-9 Aug, near Kidd L (Monroe Co) (*DK, *FB, FH-ph, m.ob.); 4-16 Aug, Batavia (Kane Co) (*AH, m.ob.). There are now some 50 IL records for this species. See photos.

Northern Shrike
EA: 18 Oct, Fermi (AFS). Others (all reported): 22 Oct, JP (KC); 25 Oct, Pine Road Marsh (DeKalb Co) (DS); 1 Nov, so. La Salle Co (CKM, JDM); 7 Nov, Fermi (RF, KF); 8 Nov, Homer L (Champaign Co) (RC).

Loggerhead Shrike
EA: 2 Aug, se. McLean Co (CKM, JDM). MC: 5, Pr.Rdg, 28 Nov (JW).

White-eyed Vireo
MC: 8, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM). LD: **27 Nov**, **Chi** (SF); 3 Oct, Carl.L (DK).

Bell's Vireo
LD: 9 Sep, Sang.L (DB); 26 Aug, MidewinPr (DFS).

Yellow-throated Vireo
EA: 1 Sep, Du Page Co (RF, KF). MC: 3, Palos, 15 Sep (DFS); 3, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB). LD: 29 Sep, Spfld (DB); 27 Sep, Blackhawk FP (Kane Co) (JM).

Blue-headed Vireo
EA: 7 Sep, LincP (JL); 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: 6, Catlin Park (La Salle Co), 18 Oct (DS); 5, Spfld, 3 Oct (DB); 5, Urbana, 11 Oct (RC). LD: 19 Nov, Sang.L (DB); 8 Nov, JP (KC, PC).

Warbling Vireo
MC: 14, LCal, 31 Aug (DFS); 10, Sangamon Co, 31 Aug (DB). LD: 27 Sep (3), Shabbona L (DeKalb Co) (DS); 24 Sep, Carl.L (KM).

Philadelphia Vireo
EA: 17 Aug, LCal (DFS); 27 Aug, Spfld (DB). MC: 10, se. Du Page Co, 13 Sep (DFS); 8, Spfld, 1 Oct (DB). LD: 23 Oct, Moraine View SP (McLean Co) (MF); 4 Oct, Thatcher Woods FP (Cook Co) (DFS).

Red-eyed Vireo
MC: 34, Spfld, 2 Sep (DB); 29, LCal, 9 Sep (DFS). LD: 12 Oct, Spfld (DB); 3 Oct (2), Lyman Woods (Du Page Co) (DFS).

Blue Jay
MC: 117, Clin.L, 30 Sep (DFS); 42, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM).

American Crow
MC: 1,300, HL, 7 Nov (KM); 400, Palos, 20 Oct (DFS).

Fish Crow
MC: 15, Kidd L (Monroe Co), 4 Aug (DK). LD: 15 Nov, HL (WR).

Horned Lark
EA: 10 Sep, LincP (JL); 12 Sep (imm.), JP (PC). MC: 340, Momence, 29 Aug (DFS); 105, Sangamon Co, 1 Sep (DB).

Purple Martin
MC: **20,000+**, LincP, 1 Aug - 16 Sep (JL)—**twice the previous IL high count**; 525, Pere Marquette SP, 20 Jul (KM).

Tree Swallow
EA: 20 Jul (45), Sang.L (DB). MC: 10,000, LShel, 19 Sep (RC); 10,000, Clin.L, 4 Oct (RC); 10,000, LChau, 8 Oct (RC). LD: 27 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 21 Nov, Clin.L (MD, RC).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow
EA: 1 Aug, Rend L (TM). MC: 1,000, LChau, 30 Aug (MR); 100, Randolph Co, 8 Aug (IOS). LD: 28 Sep (8), Spfld (DB).

Bank Swallow
MC: 330, Momence, 14 Aug (CKM, JDM); 250, Pere Marquette SP, 21 Jul (KM). LD: 17 Sep, Spfld (DB); 31 Aug (2), LincP (JL).

Cliff Swallow
EA: 18 Jul (44), Spfld (DB); 5 Aug, LCal (DFS). MC: 510, Spfld, 12 Aug (DB); 400+, IBSP, 12 Sep (JM). LD: 3 Oct (3), Carl.L (DK); 20 Sep (2), Spfld (DB); 12 Sep, Fermi (RF, KF).

Barn Swallow
MC: 200, Monroe Co, 27 Jul (KM); 160, Sang.L, 17 Sep (DB); 155, se. Du Page Co, 9 Aug (DFS). LD: **6 Dec**, Winthrop Harbor (**Lake Co**) (*GW).

Carolina Chickadee
MC: 18, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM); 11, Homer L (Champaign Co), 30 Sep (DFS).

Black-capped Chickadee
MC: 40, Spfld, 28 Aug (DB); 35, Lyons Woods FP (Lake Co), 14 Nov (JE).

Tufted Titmouse
MC: 27, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM); 25, Spfld, 2 & 13 Aug (DB); 6, Lyman Woods (Du Page Co), 13 Sep (DFS).

Red-breasted Nuthatch
EA: 22 Aug, LincP (JL); 29 Aug, Urbana (RC); 13 Sep, Carl.L (DK). LD: 6 Nov (male), JP (PC). Other: Feb 1998 to end of season, Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation (Kane Co) (RAM).

White-breasted Nuthatch
MC: 20, Palos, 4 Sep (DFS); 15, Spfld, 22 Aug (DB).

Brown Creeper
EA: 4 Sep, Palos (DFS); 24 Sep, Urbana (RC). MC: 24, LCal, 9 Oct (DFS). LD (north): 27 Nov, Geneva (Kane Co) (CT).

Carolina Wren
MC: 13, Sangamon Co, 28 Aug, 3 Oct & 1 Nov (DB); 12, Urbana, 11 Oct (RC).

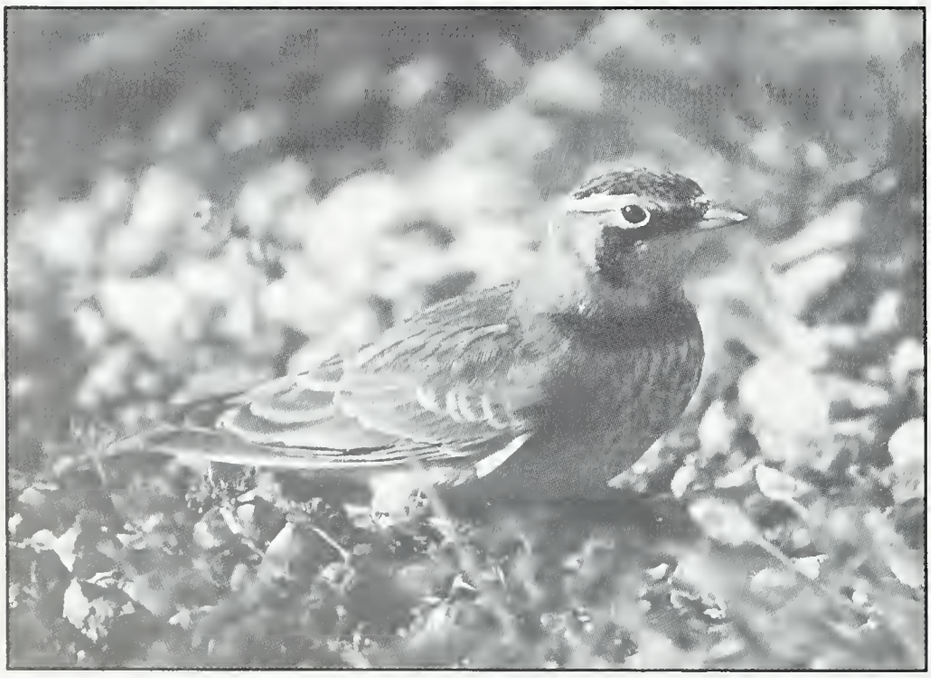
Bewick's Wren
LD: 9 Oct, Parklands (McLean Co) (MR et al.). Other: 23 Aug, Sanganois CA (Mason Co) (RC).

House Wren
MC: 19, Sangamon Co, 1 Aug (DB); 16, MidewinPr, 11 Sep (DFS). LD: 13 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 9 Oct, JP (PC, KC).

Winter Wren
EA: 8 Sep, Spfld (DB); 9 Sep, LCal (DFS); 9 Sep, JP (WS); 9 Sep (2), Evanston (JE). MC: 19, Spfld, 8 Oct (DB); 17, JP, 9 Oct (PC); 8, Urbana, 22 Oct (RC). To end of period.

Sedge Wren
EA: 14 Jul, Chain of Rocks Lock & Dam #27 (St. Clair Co) (KM). MC: 16, Matthiessen SP (La Salle Co), 9-16 Aug (CKM, JDM); 16, Rockford, 15 Aug (DW); 13, Pr.Rdg, 13 Oct (JW, EK). LD: 26 Oct, GrantP (DFS).

Marsh Wren
EA: 12 Sep, JP (BH); 12 Sep, LincP (JL); 25 Sep, Sang.L (DB). MC: 5, JP, 20 Sep (PC); 5, GrantP, 23 Sep (DFS). LD: 3 Nov, McLean Co (MR); 24 Oct, I&M Canal (Grundy Co) (DFS).



Horned Lark at Chicago's Montrose Harbor, Cook County, 12 September 1998. Photo by Eric Walters.

Golden-crowned Kinglet
EA: **7 Sep** (2), LincP (JL); **8 Sep**, JP (*PC)—**record early arrivals for state**; 23 Sep, Spfld (DB). MC: 162, LCal, 9 Oct (DFS); 60, Clin.L, 18 Oct (RC); 22, Carl.L, 4 Oct (DK).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
EA: 30 Aug (2), Rockford (DW); 5 Sep (2), Urbana (RC); 14 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: 45, Urbana, 18 Oct (RC); 33, LCal, 25 Sep (DFS). LD: 6 Dec, Lyman Woods (Du Page Co) (DFS).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
EA: 12 Aug, JP (PC). LD: 25 Sep, Wolf L (LCal) (DFS); 25 Sep, Spfld (DB).

Eastern Bluebird
MC: 60, Clin.L, 4 Oct (RC); 38, Jasper Co, 28 Nov (JW); 27, MidewinPr, 7 Oct (DFS). To end of period.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD
4 Nov (female), Berry (Sangamon Co) (*DB). Fifth IL record.

Veery
EA: 7 Aug (summered nearby?), Bloomington (MR); 22 Aug, LincP (JL). MC: 6, JP, 25 Aug (PC, KC). LD: 21 Sep, LincP (RF, KF); 21 Sep, GrantP (DFS); 21 Sep, JP (PC).

Gray-cheeked Thrush
EA: **5 Aug** (no details), Bloomington (MR); 25 Aug (2), GrantP (DFS); 31 Aug, Spfld (DB); 13 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 8, GrantP, 21 Sep (DFS); 4, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB); 3, Carl.L, 24 Sep (KM). LD: 9 Oct, JP (KC); 6 Oct, Spfld (DB).

Swainson's Thrush
EA: 16 Aug (2), LincP (JL, m.ob.); 22 Aug, Urbana (RC); 5 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 125, GrantP, 8 Sep (DFS); 60, Urbana, 6 Sep (RC). LD: 19 Oct, Spfld (DB).

Hermit Thrush
EA: **31 Jul** (ad., worn plumage), JP (*PC)—**record early IL arrival**; 19 Aug, LincP (DJ); 2 Sep, GrantP (DFS); 16 Sep, Urbana (RC). MC: 128, GrantP, 8 Oct (DFS); 25, Urbana, 22 Oct (RC); 6, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM). To end of period.

Wood Thrush
LD: 6 Oct, Spfld (DB); 30 Sep (4), Moraine View SP (McLean Co) (DFS).

American Robin
MC: 585, Spfld, 16 Oct (DB); 375, Lenzburg, 15 Nov (TM); 270, no. La Salle Co, 1 Nov (CKM, JDM); 120, Madison Co, 9 Oct (KM).

Gray Catbird
MC: 40+, Urbana, 25 Sep (RC); 27, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM); 24, LCal, 9 Sep (DFS). LD: 1 Dec, GrantP (DFS).

Northern Mockingbird
MC: 9, MidewinPr, 7 Oct (DFS); 7, Sangamon Co, 16 Sep (DB).

Brown Thrasher
EA: 17 Aug, Chi (DFS). MC: 12, Sangamon Co, 16 Sep (DB); 8, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM). LD: 2 Dec, GrantP (DFS).

European Starling
MC: **200,000+** (roost—estimated by number of birds going by a fixed point per second), Urbana-Champaign (University of IL campus, Champaign Co), 21 Nov - end of period (RC); 3,500 (roost), LCal, 25 Oct (WM).

American Pipit
EA: 9 Sep, JP (PC, KC); 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: **320**, Seneca (La Salle Co), 7 Nov (CKM, JDM); **300**, Pecatonica, 18 Oct; 100+, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), 6 Nov (JOS); 100+, Brocton (Edgar Co), 7 Nov (JW et al.). LD: 27 Nov (8), Carl.L (DK); 23 Nov, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB).

Cedar Waxwing
EA: 8 Aug (76), Evanston (JE). MC: 278, Ottawa (La Salle Co), 28 Oct (CKM, JDM); 270, LCal, 17 Aug (DFS); 200, O'Fallon, 21 Sep (KM).

Blue-winged Warbler
EA: 16 Aug, Oswego (Kendall Co) (DS); 30 Aug, Urbana (RC). LD: 12 Oct, Sang.L (DB).

Golden-winged Warbler
EA: 7 Aug, Bloomington (MR); 24 Aug (2), JP (BH, PC); 25 Aug (female), GrantP (DFS); 25 Aug (2), LincP (JL). MC: 6, Spfld, 28 Aug, 2, 17, & 18 Sep (DB); 4, Evanston, 16 Sep (JE). LD: 4 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 20 Sep (male), Tyler Creek FP (Kane Co) (DFS). "**Brewster's**" **hybrid**: 27 Aug, Sang.L (*DB); 17 Sep, Spfld (DB). "**Lawrence's**" **hybrid**: 27 Sep, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co) (FB).

Tennessee Warbler
EA: 11 Aug, Spfld (DB); 12 Aug (3), JP (PC). MC: 70, Urbana, 30 Aug (RC); 65, Palos, 15 Sep (DFS). LD: 23 Oct, Spfld (DB); 21 Oct, GrantP (DFS).

Orange-crowned Warbler
EA: 15 Sep, Glencoe (Cook Co) (DJ); 23 Sep (imm.), Spfld (DB); 27 Sep (3), Fort Massac SP (Massac Co) (FB); 27 Sep (3), Urbana (RC). MC: **25**, LCal, 9 Oct (DFS)—**record fall high count**; 16, Urbana, 18 Oct (RC); 6, Carl.L, 3 Oct (DK). LD: 24 Nov, JP (KC).

Nashville Warbler
EA: **5 Aug**, GrantP (DFS)—**record early fall arrival**; 22 Aug, Spfld (DB). MC: 14, LCal, 9 Sep (DFS); 11, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB). LD: 27 Oct, Palatine (Cook Co) (CF).

Northern Parula
EA: 21 Jul, Spfld (KM). MC: 6, Spfld, 8 Sep (DB); 5 (males), Fort Massac SP (Massac Co), 28 Sep (FB). LD: 18 Oct (female), Urbana (RC); 2 Oct, LCal (DFS).

Yellow Warbler
MC: 4, Spfld, 6 Aug (DB). LD: 27 Sep (3), Fort Massac SP (Massac Co) (FB); 12 Sep, Evanston (MR); 12 Sep, LincP (JL).

Chestnut-sided Warbler
EA: 11 Aug (2 imm.), Spfld (DB); 13 Aug (imm. female), JP (PC). MC: 16, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB); 12, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 3 Oct, Lyman Woods (Cook Co) (DFS); 3 Oct, Spfld (DB); 3 Oct, Carl.L (DK).

Magnolia Warbler
EA: **11 Aug** (imm.), Skokie Lagoons (Cook Co) (DFS)—**record early fall arrival**; 13 Aug (2), JP (PC); 20 Aug (4), Spfld (DB). MC: 49, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB); 40, Carl.L, 19 Sep (DK); 34, Des Plaines R (Cook Co), 6 Sep (DFS). LD: 22 Oct, GrantP (DFS).

Cape May Warbler
EA: 16 Aug, JP (PC); 29 Aug, Urbana (RC). MC: 15, GrantP, 25 Aug (DFS). LD: 13 Oct, Spfld (DB); 8 Oct (3), GrantP (DFS).

Black-throated Blue Warbler
EA: 16 Aug (male), JP (SC, PC); 17-18 Aug (male, **possible *cairnsi***), Spfld (*DB); 29 Aug (male), Urbana (RC). MC: 5 (2 males, 3 females), LCal, 25 Sep (DFS); 3 (females), Bloomington, 5 Sep (MR, JE). LD: **26 Nov** (male), JP (*PC, BH)—**record IL late date**; 11 Oct (female), Urbana (RC). There appear to be no previous IL reports of the Appalachian subspecies *cairnsi*.

Yellow-rumped Warbler
EA: 16 Aug (2), LincP (JL, KM); 5 Sep, Urbana (RC); 21 Sep, Ziegler (Franklin Co) (LS). MC: 233, Spfld, 10 Oct (DB); 200, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM); 194, JP, 28 Sep (KC, PC). Through end of period.

Black-throated Green Warbler
EA: 16 Aug, Spfld (KM); 16 Aug, LincP (JL, KM). MC: 40, Urbana, 30 Aug (RC); 19, LCal, 25 Sep (DFS); 11, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM). LD: 28 Oct, Spfld (DB); 20 Oct, Palos (DFS).

Blackburnian Warbler
EA: **22 Jul**, Spfld (DB)—**record early IL arrival**; 16 Aug (imm.), Palos (DFS). MC: **40**, Urbana, 29 Aug (RC)—**record high count**. LD: 18 Oct, Urbana (RC); 7 Oct, I&M Canal (Grundy Co) (DFS).

Yellow-throated Warbler
LD: 27 Sep, Spfld (DB); 29 Aug, Shabbona L (DeKalb Co) (DS).

Pine Warbler
EA: 30 Aug, Shabbona L (DeKalb Co) (DS); 8 Sep (male), Spfld (DB). LD: **27 Nov into Dec** (2), CBG (*AE, DJ).

Prairie Warbler
EA: **6 Aug** (female), GrantP (DFS). LD: 7 Sep, JP (KC). Other: 30 Aug, LincP (SF, CA, AFS).

Palm Warbler
EA: 26 Aug, Evanston (JE). MC: **460**, GrantP, 16 Sep (DFS); 231, JP, 16 Sep (PC, KC); 100, Colfax (McLean Co), 19 Sep (MR). LD: 14 Nov, IBSP (JE); 7 Nov, Carl.L (KM).

Bay-breasted Warbler
EA: 16 Aug, JP (PC); 20 Aug, Spfld (DB); 22 Aug, Carl.L (DK). MC: 35, JP, 19 Sep (RF, KF); 18, Urbana, 5 Sep (RC); 8, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 18 Oct, Bemis Woods (Cook Co) (DFS).

Blackpoll Warbler
EA: **11 Aug**, Skokie Lagoons (Cook Co) (DFS)'**second earliest IL arrival date**; 12 Aug, JP (PC); 22 Aug, Urbana (RC); 12 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 52, GrantP, 16 Sep (DFS). LD: 14 Oct, Evanston (JE).

Cerulean Warbler
EA: 25 Aug (ad. female), JP (PC, BH); 3 Sep (imm.), Spfld (DB). LD: 24 Sep (imm. female), JP (PC); 17 Sep (imm.), Spfld (DB). Others: 9 Sep (female), Evanston (JE).

Black-and-white Warbler
EA: 27 Jul, Spfld (DB); 11 Aug (2 imm.), Skokie Lagoons (Cook Co) (DFS); 6 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: **21**, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB)—**record fall high count**; 9, GrantP, 25 Aug (DFS); 6, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 11 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 1 Oct, JP (KC).

American Redstart
EA: 11 Aug, Spfld (DB); 11 Aug (ad. male), Skokie Lagoons (Cook Co) (DFS). MC: 80, Des Plaines R (Cook Co), 6 Sep (DFS); 45, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB). LD: **25 Nov** (ad. male), Spfld (*DB); 12 Oct (female), JP (PC); 8 Oct (female), Spfld (DB).

Prothonotary Warbler
EA: 25 Aug (imm.), JP (PC, BH). MC: 3, Spfld, 2 Aug (DB). LD: 6 Sep, Spfld (DB); 6 Sep (2), Carl.L (DK).

Ovenbird
EA: 31 Jul, JP (PC); 25 Aug, Spfld (DB). MC: 14, Spfld, 17 Sep (DB); 11, Thatcher Woods FP (Cook Co), 6 Sep (DFS); 5, Carl.L, 17 Sep (KM); 5, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co), 27 Sep (FB). LD: 9 Nov, GrantP (DEW).

Northern Waterthrush
EA: **19 Jul**, LincP (JL)'**second earliest July record**, and likely the earliest IL fall arrival; 1 Aug, Spfld (DB). MC: 9, GrantP, 25 Aug (DFS). LD: 16 Nov, GrantP (DFS).

Louisiana Waterthrush
LD: 28 Sep, Nelson L (Kane Co) (DS).

Connecticut Warbler
EA: 23 Aug, JP (PC); 6 Sep, Decatur (MD). MC: 18, Chi (Water Tower Park), 16 Sep (CW). LD: 23 Sep, GrantP (DFS). Others (downstate): 16 Sep, Urbana (RC); 19 Sep, Carl.L (DK).

Mourning Warbler
EA: 15 Aug (imm.), JP (PC); 16 Aug, LincP (JL). MC: 6, JP, 25 Aug (PC). LD: 25 Sep, LincP (JL).

Common Yellowthroat
MC: 31, GrantP, 23 Sep (DFS); 18, Monroe Co, 4 Aug (KM). LD: 22 Nov, Chi (GW).

Hooded Warbler
LD: 6 Sep, Carl.L (DK); 29 Aug (female), Spfld (DB).

Wilson's Warbler
EA: 17 Aug (male), Wilmette (JE); 20 Aug (female), Sang.L (DB). MC: 7, JP, 23 Aug (KC, PC); 4, Spfld, 2 & 18 Sep (DB). LD: 2 Oct (male), Spfld (DB); 24 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 23 Sep, GrantP (DFS).

Canada Warbler
EA: 11 Aug (imm. female), Spfld (DB); 17 Aug, Wolf L (LCal) (DFS); 29 Aug, Orient (Franklin Co) (LS). MC: 4, Spfld, 28 Aug & 2 Sep (DB); 3, JP, 30 Aug (PC); 3, LCal, 9 Sep (DFS). LD: 19 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 17 Sep, Eggers Woods (Cook Co) (DFS); 17 Sep (3), Sangamon Co (DB).

Yellow-breasted Chat
LD: 27 Sep, Ziegler (Franklin Co) (LS); 16 Sep, GrantP (DFS).

Summer Tanager
EA: 11 Aug (female), Spfld (DB). LD: 23 Sep (female'same as previous), Spfld (DB); 12 Sep (male), Palos (DFS).

Scarlet Tanager
EA: 20 Aug, GrantP (DFS). MC: 5, Spfld, 2 Sep (DB); 4, Palos, 15 Sep (DFS). LD: 8 Oct (2), Spfld (DB); 3 Oct, Lyman Woods (Du Page Co) (DFS).

Eastern Towhee
EA: 11 Sep (female), JP (GS). MC: 10, Sangamon Co, 13 Oct (DB); 9, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM). LD: 31 Oct (pr.), JP (PC).

Spotted Towhee
21-26 Nov, Carl.L (CPA, AS-ph, DK).

American Tree Sparrow
EA: 1 Oct, JP (KC, PC). MC: 54, Sangamon Co, 22 Nov (DB).

Chipping Sparrow
MC: 35, Rockford, 8 Oct (DW); 20, Carl.L, 13 Oct (KM). LD: 28 Nov, Sang.L (DB); 21 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 11 Nov, Evanston (JE).

Clay-colored Sparrow
EA: **25 Aug**, GrantP (DFS)—**record early IL arrival**; 19 Sep, Humboldt (Coles Co) (RC). LD: 21 Oct (2), GrantP (DFS); 17 Oct, Middle Fork R FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 17 Oct, HL (FH). Others: 13 Oct, Pr.Rdg (JW, EK).

Field Sparrow
MC: **122**, MidewinPr, 7 Oct (DFS); 30, Middle Fork R FP (Champaign Co), 17 Oct (RC). LD: 30 Nov (2), Spfld (DB); 6 Nov, JP (KC).

Vesper Sparrow
LD: 4 Nov, Berry (Sangamon Co) (DB); 27 Oct, Wauk (DJ).

Lark Sparrow
LD: **25-26 Oct**, LincP (JL, m.ob.)—**record IL late date**.

Savannah Sparrow
EA: 16 Aug, LincP (KM). MC: **300**, Pr.Rdg, 29 Sep (JW, EK)—**record IL high count**. LD: 28 Nov (5), Pecatonica (BG); 28 Nov, Carl.L (DK).

Grasshopper Sparrow
LD: **13-19 Nov**, JP (PC, KC).

Henslow's Sparrow
LD: 1 Oct, Evanston (JE). Other: 24 Aug (resident?), McLean Co (MR).

Le Conte's Sparrow
EA: 9 Sep, LincP (GW); 19 Sep, Urbana (RC); 26 Sep, Carl.L (IOS). LD: 2 Nov, Cypress Creek NWR (Pulaski Co) (FB); 31 Oct (3), Sang.L (DB); 26 Oct, JP (PC).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
EA: 16 Sep (2), GrantP (DFS). MC: 5, IBSP, 11 Oct (SH). LD: **21 Nov** (details?), MTwain (HW). Others: 26 Sep, Carl.L (IOS); 29 Sep, Pr.Rdg (JW, EK); 11 Oct, Pecatonica (BG); 11 Oct, Urbana (RC).

Fox Sparrow
EA: 21 Sep, GrantP (DFS); 4 Oct (2), Urbana (RC); 18 Oct (2), Carl.L (DK). MC: 26, GrantP, 22 Oct (DFS); 16, Spfld, 23 Oct (DB). LD: 6 Dec, Wolf Road Prairie (Cook Co) (DFS).

Song Sparrow
MC: 48, LCal, 9 Oct (DFS); 45, Spfld, 30 Nov (DB).

Lincoln's Sparrow
EA: **25 Aug**, LincP (JL)—**record early fall arrival**. MC: **61**, GrantP, 23 Sep (DFS). LD: 1 Dec, GrantP (DFS).

Swamp Sparrow
EA: 7 Sep (imm.), Wilmette (JE); 23 Sep, Spfld (DB); 26 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 200+, Urbana, 18 Oct (RC); 100+, Pr.Rdg, 13 Oct (JW, EK); 85, GrantP, 23 Sep & 8 Oct (DFS). LD (north): 30 Nov, JP (PC).

White-throated Sparrow
EA: 25 Aug, GrantP (DFS); 10 Sep, Sang.L (DB). MC: 500+, Urbana, 18 Oct (RC); 450, GrantP, 23 Sep (DFS).

Harris's Sparrow
EA: 23 Sep (ad.), GrantP (DFS); 23-27 Sep (imm.), LincP (GW, JL). MC: 3 (imm.), GrantP, 8 Oct (DFS). LD: 12 Nov, JP (KC, PC). Others: 8 Oct, Clin.L (RC); 18 Oct, Pecatonica (BG); 27 Oct, Des Plaines R (Lake Co) (SH).

White-crowned Sparrow
EA: 9 Sep (imm.), JP (PC); 9 Sep (2 imm.), Wilmette (JE); 21 Sep (imm.), Spfld (DB). MC: 110, GrantP, 23 Sep (DFS); 100, Pecatonica, 18 Oct (BG); 80, Pr.Rdg, 28 Nov (JW). "**Gambel's**" **subspecies**: 27 Sep, LincP (JL).

Dark-eyed Junco
EA: 8 Sep, GrantP (DFS); 9 Sep, Spfld (DB). MC: 376, JP, 21 Oct (PC); 265, GrantP, 8 Oct (DFS); 88, Spfld, 27 Nov (DB). "**Oregon**" **form**: 22 Nov, Spfld (DB).

Lapland Longspur
EA: **10 Sep** (2), LincP (JL)—**record early fall arrival**; 28 Oct, Sang.L (DB). MC: "thousands," Colfax (McLean Co), 31 Oct (MR); 150+, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), 23 Nov (JOS).

Smith's Longspur
EA: 24 Nov (3—1 male, white wing-cresent seen), Sang.L (DB). LD: 27 Nov, Clin.L (MR).

Snow Bunting
EA: 11 Oct (2), LincP (JL). MC: 167, LSNucPlnt, 29 Nov (CKM, JDM).

Northern Cardinal
MC: 41, LCal, 9 Oct (DFS); 18, O'Fallon, 30 Oct (KM).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak
EA: 12 Aug (imm. male), JP (KC). MC: 15, Spfld, 23 Sep (DB); 14, Thatcher Woods FP (Cook Co), 4 Oct (DFS); 12, Carl.L, 26 Sep (IOS). LD: 18 Oct, Carl.L (KM, DK); 11 Oct, Spfld (DB).

Blue Grosbeak
LD: 20 Sep (1 ad., 3 imm.), New Columbia (Massac Co) (FB); 11 Sep (3), MidewinPr (DFS).

Indigo Bunting
EA: 1 Sep, GrantP (DFS). MC: 30, Monroe Co, 4 Aug (KM); 28, Sangamon Co, 4 Aug (DB); 11, MidewinPr, 11 Sep (DFS). LD: 23 Oct, Buckhart (Sangamon Co) (DB).

Dickcissel
MC: 10, Monroe Co, 4 Aug (KM). LD: 14 Oct, Sang.L (DB).

Bobolink
EA: 3 Sep (2), Sang.L (DB); 6 Sep (2), JP (PC). MC: 12, LincP, 27 Sep (JL). LD: 4 Oct (2), Spfld (DB).

Red-winged Blackbird
MC: 5,000 (roost), Spfld, all Oct (DB); 2,500, Rockford, 8 Oct (DW). **Partial albino**: 8 Oct, Sangamon Co (DB).

Eastern Meadowlark
EA: 29 Sep, JP (KC). MC: 100+, Pr.Rdg, all season (JW, EK); 15, MidewinPr, 11 Sep (DFS). LD: 22 Nov, Buffalo (Sangamon Co) (DB); 15 Nov, LSNucPlnt (CKM, JDM)

Western Meadowlark
MC: 3, Momence, 8 Aug (WS).

Yellow-headed Blackbird
EA: 23 Aug (2 females), LChau (KR et al.); 10 Sep (male), JP (PC, BH). LD: 18 Nov (ad.), Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB).

Rusty Blackbird
EA: **9 Sep**, LCal (DFS); **9 Sep** (female), JP (PC, KC)**second earliest IL arrival date**; 3 Oct (3), Mermet L CA (FB). MC: 60, Wauk, 24 Oct (DW); 50, Sangamon Co, 27 Nov (DB); 30, HL, 17 Nov (KM). LD: 2 Dec (2), Palatine (Cook Co) (CF).

Brewer's Blackbird
EA: 11 Oct, Urbana (RC). MC: **200+**, Union (McHenry Co), 11 Nov (*BG)—**record fall high count**. LD: 18 Nov (4), Yorkville (Kendall Co) (DFS). Others: 15 Aug (3), Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co) (KM, SD); 3 Nov (2 females), Sang.L (DB).

Common Grackle
MC: 10,000, Spfld, 22 Aug (DB).

Brown-headed Cowbird
MC: 6,000, Spfld, 3 Oct (DB); 185, MidewinPr, 22 Sep (DFS).

Orchard Oriole
LD: 13 Sep (3 females), Spfld (DB); 26 Aug, MidewinPr (DFS).

Baltimore Oriole
MC: 22, Sangamon Co, 11 Aug (DB). LD: 11 Sep, MidewinPr (DFS).

Purple Finch
EA: 12 Sep, LincP (RC); 27 Sep, Urbana (RC). MC: 15, Urbana, 25 Oct (RC). LD (north): 6 Dec, MidewinPr (DFS).

House Finch
MC: 90, MidewinPr, 8 Oct (DFS).

Red Crossbill
EA: 20 Oct, Palos (DFS). MC: 28, IBSP, 7 Nov (JM, AFS). Other: 11 Nov (male), Bloomington (MR).

White-winged Crossbill
EA: 14 Nov (imm. male), Lyons Woods FP (Lake Co) (JE).

Common Redpoll
EA: 14 Nov (3), Lyons Woods FP (Lake Co) (JE).

Pine Siskin
EA: 7 Oct, Urbana (RC). Other: 15 Aug (at feeder), Ottawa (La Salle Co) (CKM, JDM).

American Goldfinch
MC: **2,000**, IBSP, 12 Nov (DJ et al.)—**record IL high count**; 250, Goose L Prairie SP (Grundy Co), 7 Oct (DFS); 90, Spfld, Oct 9 (DB); 60, HL, 24 Oct (KM).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow
MC: 30, LChau, 29 Aug (DW). Other (extralimital): 14 Nov, **Clin.L** (*MR, AR).

EXOTICS & RELEASES:

Barnacle Goose

4 Oct, Durand (*BG, RM). There are accepted vagrant records of this species for North America, but the origins of the several IL records to date are purely speculative.

Ringed Turtle-Dove

8 Sep, Westchester (Cook Co) (DFS); 31 Oct, Mendota (La Salle Co) (JH).

Senegal Parrot

30 Aug, Westchester (Cook Co) (DFS).

Pin-tailed Whydah

28 Sep (male in breeding plumage), JP (PC).

REVIEW PENDING:

Documentations for the following reports from the fall 1998 season are under review by the IORC: King Eider at Evanston, 1 Nov; Black Rail at Vermilion Co, 26 Oct; Whimbrel at MTwain, 30 Jul; Virginia's Warbler at JP, 25 Aug; and Hermit Warbler at Spfld, 25 Nov.

Corrigenda to the fall 1997 Field Notes:

Allen's Hummingbird

Vernon Kleen said he did not participate in the original netting of this bird as reported in the 1997 Field Notes.

Hermit Thrush

MC: 145, GrantP, 10 Oct (DFS)—not 107 as reported.

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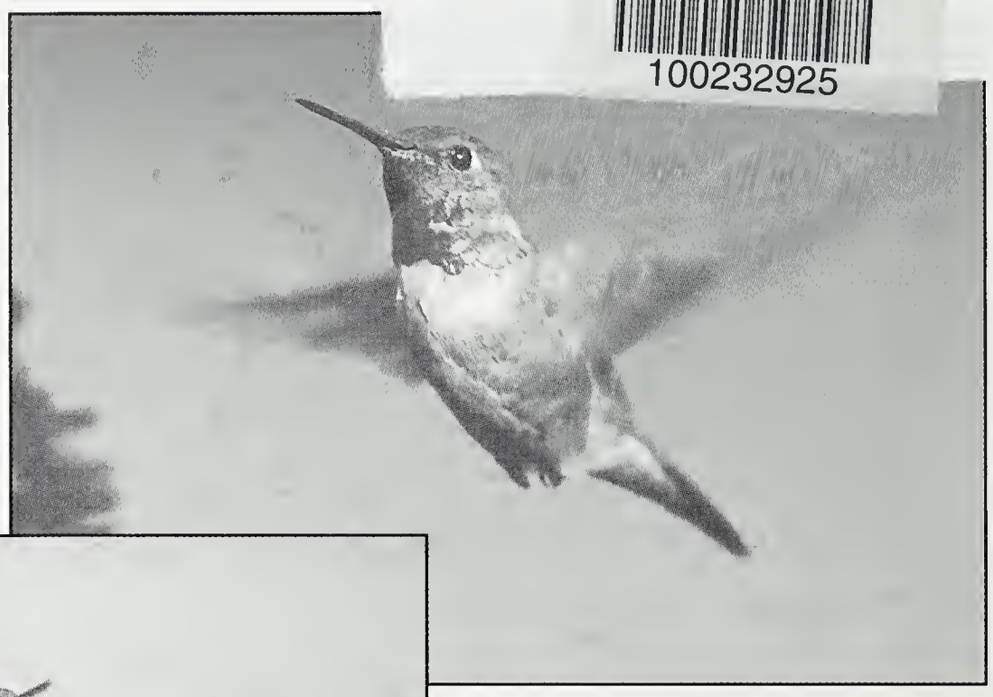
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Hummingbird Parade

It was Rufous City in Springfield during November 1998.

An adult male Rufous Hummingbird was seen 7 November 1998 at Dennis Oehmke's brother's house in Springfield and was still present past the fall season; and a female Rufous Hummingbird was seen 23 November 1998 in Springfield, Illinois.

Photos (of the male) by Dennis Oehmke.
See inside for another parading hummingbird photo.